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Foreign Ministry Statement on SFRY Rallies

AU2209191088 Tirana Domestic Service in Albanian 1800 GMT 22 Sep 88

["Statement by the Spokesman of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs"]

[Text] Under the pretext of expressing solidarity with the Serbs and Montenegrins in Kosovo, who are allegedly being persecuted by the Albanians, a number of rallies have been held in various cities of the SR of Serbia and elsewhere in the SFRY by Serb nationalists, attended even by officials, in which provocative anti-Albanian speeches are being held. At these rallies, some of which are being held in the proximity of our borders, chauvinistic calls and slogans are heard, such as: Death to the Albanians; The army in Kosovo; Down with the Albanians; We want weapons; We want blood; We are going to wash the fields of Kosovo with blood; and so forth.

Under the pretext of hitting out against the so-called separatists and irredentists, savage chauvinistic passions are being incited, everything Albanian is being attacked, and an entire nation's people are being denigrated and offended. All this activity is accompanied by oppressive administrative measures, including the deployment of new police units to Kosovo by the Federation and by the SR of Serbia.

This psychosis, which revises the old inter-ethnic animosities, not only in Kosovo, but also in other regions of Yugoslavia; this hysterical anti-Albanian activity which nurtures hatred between the peoples, cannot fail to cause concern to the Albanians of Kosovo and to all progressive public opinion in Yugoslavia and in the neighboring countries. This activity is condemned particularly by the people of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania.

This stand does not represent an intervention in the internal affairs of Yugoslavia, as is usually repeatedly claimed in Belgrade. The People's Socialist Republic of Albania has never defended any reactionary anti-Yugoslav force. It has defended and will continue to defend everything that pertains to the Albanian nation, its history and culture, its past and present, the democratic rights and freedoms of the Albanians across the border, and the independence and sovereignty of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania.

To refuse to reconcile oneself with and to denounce the aforementioned actions and slogans, and the dangers that they represent, particularly if they go out of control, is not only an obligation of the citizens of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania, who are interested in their brethren of the same blood, but also of all democratic and progressive people, wherever they may be; it is an obligation of all those to whom good-neighborliness, peace, and security in the Balkans and beyond is dear.

The People's Socialist Republic of Albania has expressed itself clearly in favor of good-neighborly relations with Yugoslavia, a stable and independent Yugoslavia, and for its peoples to live in harmony with each other and with equal rights. The People's Socialist Republic of Albania expressed this desire also at the meeting of the Balkan foreign ministers in Belgrade, which marked a positive step in the direction of promoting mutual understanding and trust in our region. It is to be deplored that, precisely in the country that took the initiative for the meeting, winds are blowing, which spoil this climate.

Foreign Minister Malile Departs for UN

AU2209191888 Tirana Domestic Service in Albanian 1800 GMT 22 Sep 88

[Text] Minister of Foreign Affairs Reis Malile, who leads the delegation of the People's Socialist republic of Albania to the 43d session of the UN General Assembly, left today for New York.

Jaruzelski to Visit 'End of September'

AU2209183288 Sofia BTA in English 1754 GMT 22 Sep 88

[Text] Sofia, September 22 (BTA)—At the invitation of Mr. Todor Zhivkov, secretary general of the CC of the BCP and president of the State Council, Mr. Wojciech Jaruzelski, first secretary of the CC of the Polish United Workers Party and chairman of the the State Council of Poland, will pay a friendly working visit to Bulgaria in the end of September.

Italy's Andreotti Concludes Visit

Meets Patriarch Maksim

AU2209183188 Sofia BTA in English 1757 GMT 22 Sep 88

[Text] Sofia, September 22 (BTA)—Mr. Giulio Andreotti minister of foreign affairs of Italy, who is on an official visit in this country, had a meeting with the chairman of the Holy Synod of the Bulgarian Orthodox Church Patriarch Maksim. The two sides stressed the great importance of the intellectual communication between peoples which contributes to their better mutual getting-to-know and understanding. Traditionally rich and fruitful, the cultural relations between Bulgaria and Italy are an important part of the cooperation between the two countries, emphasised they.

Patriarch Maksim briefed the guest on the activity of the Bulgarian Orthodox Church during the centuries and today. He spoke of its contribution to the building of sound spiritual and moral climate, about the participation of the church in the processes of radical innovation of the socio-political life. Patriarch Maksim dwelled on the work of the Bulgarian Orthodox Church in support of the struggle for peace, disarmament and understanding between the peoples in the world.

[Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian at 1730 GMT on 22 September repeats the report on the meeting between Andreotti and Patriarch Maksim, and adds: "On 22 September Giulio Andreotti departed from Bulgaria. At Sofia Airport he was seen off by Petur Mladenov, minister of foreign affairs, and other officials."]

Makes Departure Statement

AU2209190088 Sofia BTA in English 1816 GMT 22 Sep 88

[Text] Sofia, September 22 (BTA)—The three day official visit to this country of Mr. Giulio Andreotti, minister of foreign affairs of Italy, ended. Before his departure this evening he summarised the results of his visit in Bulgaria before Bulgarian journalists.

Mr. Giulio Andreotti expressed satisfaction over the new opportunities for cooperation between Bulgaria and Italy especially in the sphere of economy and culture. Italy's foreign minister expressed his conviction that the agreements that have been reached will be specified at the time of the visit of Bulgaria's Foreign Minister Mr. Petur Mladenov to Italy. For this development, stressed he, great is the contribution of the good condition of the political relations between Bulgaria and Italy.

Further on Mr. Andreotti stressed that the protocol between the CMEA and the EEC opens new possibilities for international interaction. Dwelling on the political climate in the world he noted that important steps have been made for the strengthening of trust between the East and the West. Today the atmosphere in the world is more serene and this is due to a great extent to the INF Treaty signed on December 8, last year, between the U.S. and USSR. It is important now, to start as soon as possible, negotiations for considerable reduction of conventional weapons.

To the question about the effect of the consolidation of confidence between the East and the West on the Bulgaro-Italian relations and what can be the contribution of the two countries, the Italian foreign minister expressed his conviction that the relations in the world can be better when there is desire for better understanding in the conditions of open dialogue between the two superpowers and the two alliances. As for the contribution of Bulgaria and Italy Mr. Giulio Andreotti pointed out that its dimensions can be seen in the agreements from Reykjavik, Washington and Moscow, because what has been achieved there would not have been possible if each country, from the East and from the West, has not made efforts to cooperate to the process of confidence building. As far as we are concerned, Italians and Bulgarians, we have special interest to go on the road of understanding, that is why we must increase our efforts and assist the dialogue on a global scale, said Mr. Giulio Andreotti in conclusion.

Laos' Kaysone Phomvihan on 7-Day Visit

Arrives in Sofia

AU2109175888 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1730 GMT 21 Sep 88

[Text] At the invitation of Todor Zhivkov, general secretary of the BCP Central Committee and State Council chairman, Kaysone Phomvihan, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party and chairman of the Lao Council of Ministers, arrived in Bulgaria on a friendly and working visit on 21 September.

At Sofia Airport the guest was greeted by Comrades Pencho Kubadinski, Dimitur Stanishev, and other officials.

Holds Discussion with Zhivkov

AU2209144488 Sofia BTA in English 1335 GMT 22 Sep 88

[Text] Sofia, September 22 (BTA)—Mr. Todor Zhivkov, secretary general of the CC of the BCP and president of the State Council, and Mr. Kaysone Phomvihan, secretary general of the CC of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party and prime minister of Laos, who arrived in this country yesterday on a working friendly visit, held today detailed talks on a wide range of issues of bilateral relations and of present-day international situation.

The two leaders informed each other on the socio-economic tasks, solved by Bulgaria and Laos at the present stage of development, on the processes of restructuring, coinciding in their aims and tasks and in compliance with the peculiarities in the two countries' development.

They expressed their satisfaction with the mutual relations, based on the 1979 agreement for cooperation and on the agreements, reached on the highest level. It was noted, however, that the two countries' potentials to expand and deepen trading and techno-scientific relations are not fully used. The leaders expressed the belief that it is necessary to use new forms of cooperation among which are industrial cooperation and the setting up of joint companies.

The relations of the BCP and the LPRP, and of the socio-political and mass organizations of Bulgaria and Laos were highly esteemed.

In the discussion on international issues it was confirmed that the positions of the two countries on global problems and regional conflicts fully coincide.

A mention was made of the positive changes in international relations, a result of the new political thinking, of the active, peace-loving line of the Soviet Union and the other socialist states on the international arena. A high estimation was made of the Soviet-American dialogue and the INF Treaty between the two countries for scrapping of shorter and medium-range missiles and the need was stressed of reaching new, significant agreements in the field of disarmament and primarily of nuclear weapons and weapons of mass destruction. It was said that nuclear disarmament should be complimented by disarmament in the sphere of conventional weapons.

Mr. Todor Zhivkov spoke of Bulgaria's Balkan policy, directed at strengthening peace, security, good-neighbourly relations and cooperation in the region and analysed the results of the Belgrade meeting of the foreign affairs ministers of the countries of this part of the world and called for the further development of the positive processes and of mutually beneficial relations.

Mr. Kaysone Phomvihan highly esteemed the peace-loving foreign political line of Bulgaria and the country's efforts to turn the Balkans into a nuclear- and chemical-weapon free zone.

The leaders discussed the situation in the Middle and Far East, in the Asian and Pacific Ocean region, and stressed that the trouble issues should be settled by peaceful means along the way of negotiations. Bulgaria and Laos backed the Soviet Union initiative, including the latest proposals currently made by Mr. Mikhail Gorbachev, the Soviet party leader in Krasnoyarsk, for turning this part of the world into a region of peace, security and cooperation.

Bulgaria backed the initiative of Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea for strengthening of peace and security in Southeast Asia, the three countries' efforts for development of cooperation with the ASEAN countries and the other states of the region. A high estimation was made of the will for peaceful settlement of the Kampuchea problem and the beginning of the withdrawal of the restricted contingency of Vietnamese troops from Kampuchea.

Mr. Georgi Atanasov, member of the Politburo of the CC of the BCP and chairman of the Council of Ministers of Bulgaria, Mr. Pencho Kubadinski, member of the Politburo of the CC of the BCP and chairman of the National Council of the Fatherland Front, Mr. Dimitur Stanishev, secretary of the CC of the BCP, Mr. Khristo Khristov, minister in the Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations and other officials participated in the talks on the Bulgarian side.

Mr. Oudam Khatthigna [spelling of name as received], alternate member of the Politburo and secretary of the CC of the LPRP, minister of communications, transport posts and construction, Mr. Thongsavath Khaikhamphithoun, first deputy chairman of the Committee of International Relations at the CC of the LPRP and first deputy minister of foreign affairs, Mr. Phao Bounnaphon, member of the CC of the LPRP and minister of foreign trade and foreign economic relations, etc. participated in the talks on the Lao side.

After the talks Mr. Kaysone Phomvihan handed Mr. Todor Zhivkov the highest order of Laos: "Lao National Gold Order", for merits in the development of Lao-Bulgarian relations and the relations between the LPRP and the BCP.

Attends Official Dinner

AU2209145088 Sofia BTA in English 1415 GMT 22 Sep 88

[Text] Sofia, September 22 (BTA)—Bulgaria's party and state leader Mr. Todor Zhivkov, assessed highly the development of the relations between Bulgaria and Laos.

At a dinner in honour of Mr. Kaysone Phomvihan, general secretary of the CC of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party and prime minister of Laos, who is on a visit to this country, Mr. Todor Zhivkov, secretary general of the CC of the BCP and president of the State Council, spoke positively about the achievements of Laos in all spheres of life. He supported the policy implemented by that country, together with Vietnam and Kampuchea, oriented toward the turning of South-east Asia into a region of peace and cooperation.

Mr. Todor Zhivkov dwelled on the restructuring underway in Bulgaria, on the efforts of this country in close cooperation with the other fraternal socialist countries, oriented toward curbing of the arms race and strengthening of friendship between the peoples.

The Bulgarian party and state leader greeted the results of the recent Soviet-American summits, the activation of the contacts between the East and the West.

Speaking of Bulgaria's policy on the Balkans Mr. Todor Zhivkov said that in the future it will continue to be oriented toward peace, trust and understanding.

Mr. Kaysone Phomvihan stressed Bulgaria's upgrade development during the years of socialist construction and said that the changes underway in Bulgaria, the processes of restructuring are followed with interest in Laos.

Further on he spoke of the tasks of Laos at the present stage, of the efforts directed toward development of the national economy, toward raising of the living standards of the people, of the restructuring in Laos as an irreversible process.

The distinguished guest stood for unison of the efforts in the struggle against nuclear war, for disarmament and strengthening of security, for broadening of international cooperation, for the settlement of disputable issues through peaceful means on the road of negotiations.

Mr. Kaysone Phomvihan pointed out the prestige of the actions of the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries on the international arena, their efforts for healing of the international situation.

In his speech the guest expressed support to the peace initiatives of the Soviet Union set forth by Mr. Mikhail Gorbachev in Krasnoyarsk, to the efforts of Bulgaria for the turning of the Balkans into a region of peace and cooperation, to Kampuchea's principled position on the settlement of the problems around that country.

New Transportation Minister Appointed

AU2209165888 Sofia BTA in English 1627 GMT 22 Sep 88

[Text] Sofia, September 22 (BTA)—With a decree of the State Council the following ministers at the Ministry of Transport have been relieved of their posts: Mr. Vasil Tsanov, minister of transport; and deputy ministers: Stoil Ferdov, chairman of the "Bulgarian State Railroads" association, Mr. Boycho Steryanov and Mr. Vulko Vulkov.

The State Council has issued a decree for the appointing to the post minister of transport of Mr. Georgi Tanev, former head of department at the CC of the BCP; to the post of first deputy minister Mr. Yosif Smilov, former deputy minister of transport; to the posts of deputy ministers: Mr. Todor Kyurkchiev, former deputy head of department at the CC of the BCP, and Mr. Evgeni Uzunov, former deputy minister of finances.

There were also changes in the leadership of the "Bulgarian State Railroads" association.

Mr. Veselin Pavlov, former first deputy chairman of the association, has been nominated for the post of chairman of the "Bulgarian State Railroads" association.

Mr. Asen Milev has been relieved of his duties as deputy chairman of the association.

Georgi Tanev was born on 8.10.1943 in the town of Pazardzhik. He graduated the Dresden Technical University, GDR, and obtained a Ph.D. In 1971 he was appointed to the post of deputy-director of the magnetic discs plant in Pazardzhik. He was elected secretary and first secretary of the Town and Regional Committee of the BCP in Pazardzhik. In 1979 he became first secretary of the CC of the Dimitrov Young Communist League. In December, 1981 he was elected first secretary of the Regional Committee of the BCP in the town of Kurdzhali and then chairman of the Executive Committee of the Khaskovo Regional People's Council. From April, 1988, he became head of department at the CC of the BCP. Married, with two children.

Spokesman Expresses Support for Western Sahara

AU2209190388 Sofia BTA in English 1825 GMT 22 Sep 88

["Support For the Western Sahara Peace Plan"—BTA headline]

[Text] Sofia, September 22 (BTA)—Before a BTA representative a spokesman of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs said: The People's Republic of Bulgaria greets the beginning of the process for regulation of the question for the future of Western Sahara in compliance with the plan for peace proposed by UN Secretary General Mr. Xavier

Perez de Cuellar, unanimously approved by the Security Council, which envisages the halting of the military actions and the holding of a referendum.

The People's Republic of Bulgaria has always expressed her principled position that the Western Sahara problem has been inherited from colonialism and that it must be resolved through peaceful negotiations respecting the right of the people of that territory to self determination, in accordance with the resolutions on this questions adopted by the UN and the O.A.U.

In compliance with this position Bulgaria supports the constructive initiative of the UN secretary general whose realization will assist for the elimination of another hotbed of tension in international relations.

Agreement With Shell International Reported
AU2209192888 Sofia BTA in English 1800 GMT 22 Sep 88

["Further Development of Contacts With 'Shell'"—BTA headline]

[Text] Sofia, Sofia 22 (BTA)—The Bulgarian economic and foreign trade companies in the system of the association "Biotechnological and Chemical Industry" will expand their cooperation with the UK "Shell International Petroleum Company". The partners' will is expressed in the agreement signed today on long-term economic, techno-scientific and market cooperation. Their contacts, which have already good traditions will be in the sphere of petrochemistry, petrol processing, rubber and plastic industries, biotechnologies and ecology, the production of pesticides, catalysts and pharmaceutical products, biotechnologies and biotechnological products. Various forms of cooperation are to be used: joint engineering activities, establishment of consortiums, joint stock companies, joint construction of projects in Bulgaria, joint activities in third countries, mutual exchange of market, technological and other information.

On the basis of the favourable results of cooperation in the introduction of "Euroshell" credit cards service of trucks in Bulgaria, the two sides signed a protocol on the expansion of joint activities. Cooperation is to develop further by joint investments and the founding of a joint society. There are some plans to build, jointly with the "petrol" works, in Sofia and round the capital, Shell petrol stations which will offer all kinds of car goods: oils, lubricants, autocosmetic products, car services and build by-the road restaurants, shops and service stations. The two partners wish to see their idea be fulfilled in the following six months.

Zhivkov Receives British Businessman
AU2209193088 Sofia BTA in English 1830 GMT 22 Sep 88

[Text] Sofia, September 22 (BTA)—Mr. Todor Zhivkov, president of the State Council of Bulgaria, received today Mr. James Prior, representative of the British "General Electric Company".

They noted that the easing of the international climate and the positive trends in the Bulgaro-British relations provide favourable conditions for the promotion of the economic relations of the two countries' companies and economic organizations.

Mr. Todor Zhivkov acquainted the guest with the changes, taking place in the different sectors in Bulgaria. He expressed this country's readiness, in the conditions of structural and technological reform, to develop substantially, on a mutually beneficial and equal basis cooperation with the capitalist states, and among others, in the sphere of joint investments, and joint enterprises. Mr. James Prior expressed the interest of "General Electric Company" in the successful realization of various projects, on which they are currently negotiating with Bulgarian partners.

Mr. Andrey Lukanov, minister of the foreign economic relations, was present at the talks.

Mikulas Beno Received USSR's Biryukova
LD1909233088 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1930 GMT 19 Sep 88

[Text] Mikulas Beno, CPCZ Central Committee secretary, today received Aleksandra Biryukova, the CPSU Central Committee secretary who is in Czechoslovakia on a working visit. They briefed each other about the course of restructuring in the CSSR and the USSR, and about experience from party work in social policy, home markets, light industry, and improving the internal life of the party.

CPCZ Presidium Views Plan Fulfillment
LD1709134088 Prague Domestic Service in Slovak 1500 GMT 16 Sep 88

[Text] The CPCZ Central Committee Presidium discussed at its meeting today the current development of the national economy, the fulfilment of the state plan during the first half of the current year, and preliminary results for July and August. It noted that during the first half, development trends in the national economy had improved. Certain intentions and tasks set out in the plan, especially with regard to volume indicators, not only have been fulfilled more favorably than in preceeding years, but also have been exceeded. This applies to the dynamism of industrial production and the construction sector's output, adjusted net output, procurement commitments in the agricultural sector, and sales of industrial output to both the foreign and domestic markets.

Despite the fact that the qualitative indicators were not being fulfilled as set out in the plan, their trend has improved somewhat over preceding years. In line with the higher formation of resources, planned projections also have been exceeded in terms of growing retail trade turnover, investment, and stocks. The faster growth of the formation of resources and improved trends in material costs have been reflected in a more favorable trend in gross national income than envisaged in the plan.

The Presidium stressed, however, that the results achieved must not be overestimated and that economic organizations must not be self-satisfied. In no case can one overlook the fact that the key progressive trends of development and of raising effectiveness were carried out only slowly. This is why the favorable results achieved were presently of only particial significance. Overall, litle flexibility in the national economy persists. Output frequently is not provided in the required structure, quantity, and range, which unfavorably influences the situation of the domestic market and in securing deliveries for export, and increases strains in relations between suppliers and customers. High insolvency also persists in many enterprises. The economy is not succeeding in fully providing for the growing purchasing power of the population through required goods and services. There still continue to be a large number of unfinished construction projects. Unevenness in the course of construction persists and the plan for the completion of apartments is not being fulfilled, especially in Prague. The trend in stocks, too, does not tally with planned projections. The CPCZ Central Committee Presidium took note of the federal government's decision that specified in greater detail commitments set out in advance in the fulfilment of which shortcomings have appeared. The Presidium envisages that the implementation of tasks arising from political and organizational measures taken with regard to the elaboration of the 1989 state plan for national economic development and the orientation of preparations for the 1990 plan will be linked with the effective mobilization of communists and all working people for the fulfilment of this year's plan and for minimizing deviations from the fulfilment of tasks set in the Eighth 5-Year Plan.

The party Central Committee Presidium discussed some questions concerning the preparation of the celebrations for the 70th anniversary of the founding of the Czechoslovak Republic—the common state of Czechs and Slovaks. As already announced, in honor of this anniversary a festive meeting of the CPCZ Central Committee, the National Front Central Committee Presidium, and the federal government will be held on 27 October at Prague Castle. Comrade Gustav Husak, member of the Central Committee Presidium and president of the Republic, will deliver a festive address.

At the same time, the Presidium recommended the consideration and adoption of a draft bill declaring 28 October to be a national holiday.

The Presidium recommended that the National Front Central Committee send to the statewide all-trade union conference, which will take place 24-25 September, a joint delegation to be headed by Comrade Milos Jakes, general secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee and chairman of the National Front Central Committee, who also is to deliver a speech at the conference.

The Presidium furthermore acquainted itself with a report on the course and results of the official friendly visit to China by Comrade Gustav Husak and a report on the course and results of the participation of the Czechoslovak party and state delegation at the celebrations of the 40th anniversary of the founding of the DPRK and the official friendly visit to that country by the president of the Republic.

The Presidium also discussed an informative report from Comrade Jozef Lenart about his working visit to the Soviet Union and, in particular, about the meeting and talks he held with Nikolay Slyunkov, member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. It evaluated the contents of the talks and noted that they signify another contribution to the intensification of mutual cooperation and coordination between our two fraternal parties.

The CPCZ Central Committee Presidium commended the contribution of the joint Czechoslovak-Soviet seminar of managing directors of selected enterprises and associations in the field of heavy engineering and machine tools, which had provided another impulse to the development of direct ties in mutual cooperation.

Daily on Plan To Change National Day
AU2009150988 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 17 Sep 88 p 2

[Jiri Kohout article: "28 October in Our History"]

[Text] On today's front page we report that the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium recommended the preparation of a draft bill declaring 28 October to be the national day. In doing so, the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium proceeded from the respect and esteem in which our people traditionally hold this crucial date in Czechoslovak history. The whole Czechoslovak public, both our nations, and our Communist Party have always associated 28 October with its progressive contents.

On 28 October 1918, a new independent Czechoslovak state appeared on the political map of Europe, on the ruins of the Austro-Hungarian Empire, after a hiatus of 300 years. For Czechs and Slovaks, this date marked entry into a new stage in their national life.

The significance of 28 October in the historical awareness of our people was accentuated by the fact that, on the eve of this date in 1945, the nationalization decrees were promulgated. On 28 October 1968, the Law on the Czechoslovak Federation was promulgated.

Of course, the renewed celebration of 28 October as the national day does not weaken the significance which 9 May 1945 has in the awareness of the Czechoslovak public. Through this national day we pay tribute to the heroes of the national liberation struggle and to the Soviet Army, which made immense sacrifices for our freedom. It is the day when we recall the culmination of the antifascist struggle of the Czechoslovak people and Czechoslovakia's liberation from fascist bondage and the law-governed evolution of the process of national and democratic revolution into a socialist revolution.

The respect we show for 28 October is an expression of our conviction about the decisive importance of the progressive, democratic, humanistic, and social values of the historic changes that we associate with this date in our history.

Ecological Aspects of Gabcikovo Dam Discussed
AU2009122488 Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak 16 Sep 88 p 2

[CTK report: "Consistent Protection of Drinking Water Resources"]

[Text] Sturovo—Stricter punishment for infringements of the status of the Zitny Ostrov [Rye Island, area along the Danube in southern Slovakia] as a protected water conservancy area was demanded by members of the Slovak SR Government Council for the Environment, the 2-day session of which ended at Sturovo yesterday. The session was chaired by Stefan Murin, deputy premier of the Slovak SR and chairman of the Slovak SR Council for the Environment.

The state of protection of water resources in the Zitny Ostrov area has not improved due to the half-hearted and slow implementation of protective measures and the bypassing of the Water Law. There is now an acute danger of drinking water being polluted due to accidents. This was also confirmed by a recent survey [pasportizacia] of potential sources of pollution in the area. Members of the Slovak SR Government Council stressed that consistent protection of drinking water resources must become an inseparable part of planners', investors', and designers' preparation of any further development of production forces, urbanization, and capital investment in the area.

In connection with the construction of the [Gabcikovo-Nagymaros] water system on the Danube, the participants in the session acknowledged that a 1978 Slovak SR Government resolution on harmonizing the project with the biological and ecological characteristics of the landscape is being fulfilled on the whole. New findings in ecological theory, practical research, and technological possibilities require particular attention. They must be rapidly incorporated in projects and implemented. This will continue to be done in cooperation with the Hungarian People's Republic. All reasonable and feasible suggestions by citizens must be studied as well. The misuse of ecologists' arguments for political aims will be countered by the provision of more extensive and detailed information to the public on the concept of the construction and operation of the water system, with emphasis on the solution of ecological problems. An all-Slovak seminar on the subject is to take place in the near future.

Subsequently, members of the Slovak SR Government Council discussed control reports on the implementation of terms for granting exemptions from the Water Law, on the development of land resources in the Slovak SR, on the construction of ecology-related projects, and so forth.

'Destruction' Against Gas Pipeline Reported
AU1909144188 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 16 Sep 88 p 1

["gc"-signed report: "Accident at the Long-Distance Transit Gas Pipeline"]

[Text] Bratislava—On Wednesday [14 September] morning, destruction [destrukce] took place at the long-distance transit gas pipeline near Borsky Mikulas in Senica District, the causes of which have not yet been ascertained. The pipeline was cut open along a 17-meter stretch, which created a crater measuring 31 by 15 by 6

meters. Before the pipeline could be shut down, 1.9 million cubic meters of natural gas escaped; the gas was being conveyed to the GDR. Damage measuring Kcs3.62 million thus resulted. No one was injured. Gas supplies are being secured through alternative routes. A special commission was appointed to identify the causes of the accident [havarie]. Regrettably, the official report on the accident was issued with a 1-day delay.

As the transit supervisor of the transit gas pipeline enterprise in Prague assured us on Thursday [15 September] at around 5 pm, the conveyance of natural gas continues smoothly. Welders have already arrived at the damaged section to cut off the damaged parts of the pipeline and to continue the repair job after the arrival of a crane.

Editor of Communist, Workers Journal Interviewed

AU1609155088 [Editorial Report] Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech on 14 September on page 6 carries a 2,000-word interview with Aleksandr Subbotin, chief editor of PROBLEMS OF PEACE AND SOCIALISM, the Prague-based "theoretical and information journal" of communist and workers parties, by Josef Nyvlt, entitled "Platform for Exchanging Views and Experiences." The interview, the date and place of which are not specified, deals with the "current tasks and aims" of the journal in light of the "critical analysis" of its work which was made at the journal's international conference in Prague in April.

Subbotin says that the journal plans to give more space to discussions and polemics and to the expression of various stands by authors. He adds, however, that "these polemics and discussions must not constitute interference in the affairs of other parties or criticize the positions of this or that party." He also says that, in contrast to previous practice when "only representatives of our movement" expressed their opinions in the journal, in the "last few months the range of authors has been widened to include representatives of diverse parties, movements, and states." He notes that contributors to the latest issues included Rajiv Gandhi, Norwegian Prime Minister Bruntland, Yasir 'Arafat, and former Mexican President Miguel de la Madrid.

As to the expression of "various views" on the pages of the journal, Subbotin refers, among other things, to an exchange between the leading representatives of the Tunisian Communist Party and the Swiss Labor Party about the causes of recent electoral defeats of communist parties (no details of this exchange are given).

Speaking about changes in the journal, Subbotin also notes that it has become more varied in its use of journalistic genres. In addition to the customary articles, reports, and documents, it is said to be making greater use of "informal, democratic, and living" genres such as interviews, roundtable discussions, or replies to readers' questions. In this connection, Subbotin says that, following its recent interviews with Wojciech Jaruzelski and A. Cunhal, general secretary of the Portugese Communist Party, the journal is now "preparing" interviews with Karoly Grosz, Milos Jakes, and L. Corvalan, leader of the Communist Party of Chile.

When asked about the topics to which the journal plans to pay particular attention, Subbotin says that, because the "social sciences are not in a position to give an answer to many questions connected with restructuring" (such as the "burning practical problems of industry and agriculture, management, forms of ownership, and so forth"), the journal wants to develop discussion on these issues. According to Subbotin, it also plans to examine problems of peace and disarmament, as well as "problems that have surfaced recently," such as whether capitalism can exist without militarism, why communists are losing votes in elections, or the question of alliances between communists and other forces.

One question in the interview concerns the role of the journal in organizing international cooperation within the communist and workers movement. Subbotin replies that contributors to the journal realize that cooperation within the international communist and workers movement "lags behind" the international organizations of other political currents and that "the absolute majority of our authors" regards regular meetings and exchanges of experiences as "not only useful, but extremely essential" (although, as he remarks, they need not produce any final documents). He adds, however, that "there are also authors who believe that such meetings are a matter of the past, that meetings on a broad basis are pointless, and that they are not useful." Subbotin says that both viewpoints can be found in the journal. Referring to the international role of the journal itself, Subbotin says that it "serves mainly as a platform for exchanging views and experiences. Each party puts forward its own stands and experiences, which in itself is an exceptionally important contribution to the international communist and workers movement."

New Central Committee Department Head Noted

AU1909110288 [Editorial Report] Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech on 15 September on page 2 carries a 250-word CTK report on the presentation of the annual prizes of the CPCZ's own "Svoboda" Publishing House to authors of the best "socially committed" books for the year 1987. The report on the award ceremony, which was held in Prague on 14 September, notes that it was attended by "Jaroslav Jenik, head of a CPCZ Central Committee department," a position which he is not previously known to have held.

Further Reportage on Visit of Lao Leader

Phomvihan Offers Toast at Dinner

AU2109183188 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 20 Sep 88 p 3

[Toast by Kaysone Phomvihan, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party [LPRP] and chairman of the Lao Council of Ministers, at a dinner given by Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council, in Berlin on 19 September: "Linked by Decades of Friendship"]

[Text] Distinguished Comrade Erich Honecker, esteemed comrades of the party and state leadership, dear comrades:

I am highly pleased to again be able to visit the GDR, the first worker-peasant state on German soil. My special thanks go to Comrade Erich Honecker for the invitation and the warm welcome on GDR territory. On this occasion I would like to ask you to convey to all SED members and to all working people of the GDR the feelings of sincere solidarity and close affinity of the members of the LPRP and of all working people of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR].

Esteemed Comrades:

In the time before and after the liberation of our fatherland we have repeatedly visited the GDR. During our stays we have been able to convince ourselves of the progress and the increasing maturity of the industrious, disciplined, and creatively working fraternal GDR people. We note with great pleasure that the GDR people—under the prudent leadership of the SED, with Comrade Erich Honecker at the head—have achieved great successes in all fields in the building of the developed socialist society since the beginning of the 1970's. Thanks to these successes the GDR is one of the most highly developed industrial countries in the world and is thus making a very important contribution to developing and consolidating the socialist community.

At present the GDR people are making great efforts in implementing the decisions of the 11th SED Congress and the Sixth Central Committee Plenum in all fields of social life. They can look back to remarkable successes, in particular in the intensive utilization of scientific-technological progress, in the steady development of the economic mechanism, and in implementing a prudent social policy. All this has caused a stable and overall growth of the GDR's national economy with great efficiency and a steady increase in the people's material and cultural standard of living.

GDR Successes Are Proof of the Superiority of Socialism [subhead]

All these successes are proof of the superiority of socialism. They stimulate and encourage the Lao people in building a new life.

Esteemed Comrades:

The LPDR stands at the threshold of the 13th year of its existence. During this period the Lao people have reached some successes in defending their homeland and in restoring and developing the economy. This established a solid fundament for our country's further progress. In line with the decisions of the Fourth LPRP Congress and of the Fifth and Sixth LPRP Central Committee Sessions, at present the Lao people are actively working to carry out restructuring in all fields. The basis of these changes is the application of the New Economic Policy worked out by Lenin under the specific socioeconomic conditions of our country and in accordance with the general development trends of the present. The goal is to tap all reserves and possibilities and the potential of all economic sectors of the country in order to energetically promote the development of the productive forces and of social division of labor and to gradually turn the barter economy into a socialist-oriented goods economy.

The Standard of Living of the Lao People Rose Clearly [subhead]

During the past 2 years of restructuring, of new thinking, and the new management mechanism, we have been able to achieve some initial, gratifying successes. The most important thing is that the entire party and all the people approve and energetically support the party's policy. This made it possible to increase production and to raise the overall social product and the national income. The overwhelming majority of the state's economic facilities, which have already shifted to economic cost accounting, are working with a profit.

This went hand in hand with a clear rise in the standard of living of the people working in these enterprises. But we also face many difficulties, because the socioeconomic level at which we start is still extremely low. Conservatism and habituation to overcentralized and bureaucratic economic management pose considerable obstacles. In addition, the fight with our enemies and the conflict between the directions of development in the period of transition to socialism continually influences the struggle for restructuring. However, we are convinced that the course we have embarked upon and which is based on our practical experiences, on the experiences and the aid of the fraternal socialist countries, and on favorable international conditions, will steadily bring new successes.

Danger of Nuclear Destruction Can Be Banished [subhead]

Esteemed Comrades:

In international developments new trends of a transition from confrontation to dialogue, to solving problems between states through political means, and to achieving relations of peaceful coexistence are emerging. Relations between states with differing social systems are increasingly characterized by competition and mutual dependence. This is the result of the new way of thinking in foreign policy, of the active work and unremitting efforts of the Soviet Union, the fraternal socialist countries, and the world's peace forces. The practical implementation of the treaty on the elimination of intermediate- and shorter-range nuclear missiles confirms the possibility of achieving disarmament agreements and of banishing the danger of a nuclear war of destruction, which threatens all of mankind. At the same time, this strengthens the hope that we will live in a world without nuclear weapons by the beginning of the new millennium.

Laos Is in Favor of Nuclear-Free Zones [subhead]

We fully support the new proposals submitted by Mikhail Gorbachev on 16 September in Krasnoyarsk. They are a further expression of the goodwill of the Soviet Union to end the arms race, to advance the disarmament process, and to limit and eliminate factors which could lead to a military confrontation. They are designed to deepen mutual trust, to increase mutually advantageous cooperation on the basis of equal rights, and to promote the peaceful coexistence of the peoples in the Asiatic-Pacific region.

We also fully support the consistent foreign policy of the SED and the GDR, which is aimed at the firm and overall alliance with the Soviet Union and the other fraternal socialist states and at consolidating the solidarity and affinity with the peoples. We also support the principled position of the GDR in its relations with the FRG.

The LPDR most warmly welcomes the peace initiatives and the active work of the GDR aimed at converting central Europe into a chemical-weapon-free zone and at setting up a nuclear-free corridor at the dividing line between the two military alliances of the Warsaw Pact and NATO. This corresponds to the basic political concern of the GDR to do everything to ensure that war will never again start from German soil, but only peace.

The good intentions of the GDR and its profound feeling of responsibility for peace and security in Europe and in the world were impressively confirmed by the very successful International Meeting on Nuclear-Free Zones held this June, organized by the GDR. All this leads to a constant rise in the role of and respect for the GDR in the international arena.

In the recent past, the situation in Southeast Asia has been shaped in line with general world trends. The three countries of Indochina are in accord in holding the view that the solution to the Cambodian problem is indivisibly linked with the questions of peace and stability in Southeast Asia. The withdrawal of the Vietnamese volunteers from Cambodia must go hand in hand with preventing the restoration of the genocidal regime and with stopping foreign aid for the Pol Pot group. These are the result of the informal meeting held in Bogor this July. We fully and completely support the principles of the PRK aimed at solving the Cambodian problem by political means, as announced by Comrade Hun Sen, chairman of the PRK Council of Ministers, on 25 July 1988.

As for our relations with the Kingdom of Thailand, the consistent attitude of the LPDR is to solve all problems between our two countries by peaceful means and to create good-neighborly relations between the peoples of the two countries on the basis of the joint Lao-Thai declaration of 1979. We very much hope that the new Thai Government will adopt a friendly stance toward Laos and will resume negotiations in order to rapidly normalize relations and to convert the common Lao-Thai border into a border of peace and true friendship. This would correspond to the wishes of the Lao and Thai peoples and would, at the same time, be an active contribution to converting Southeast Asia into a zone of peace, stability, and cooperation.

Cooperation Will Reach a New Quality [subhead]

The LPDR is involved in establishing favorable conditions for expanding economic cooperation with foreign countries. The aim is to develop diverse cooperation of a high quality and effectiveness on the basis of the principles of equality and mutual advantage. At the same time, the LPDR will also increase its active contribution to the struggle of the peoples for peace, independence, freedom, security, and international cooperation.

Dear Comrades, Laos and the GDR are linked by decades of close friendship. In particular since the signing of the treaty on friendship and cooperation between our two countries, cooperation and mutual aid have developed in many fields. Permit me to seize this opportunity to again thank you sincerely for the internationalist support granted by the party, the state, and the people of the GDR, which is fraternally linked with us, to the Lao people in the period of the struggle for national liberation and in the period of defending the country and of national reconstruction.

We are convinced that the cooperation and mutual aid between our two countries will develop further and will reach a new quality through joint efforts of both sides on the basis of mutual agreement, understanding, and trust.

I ask you, esteemed Comrades, to raise your glasses with me and to drink to:

—the steady progress of the GDR in shaping the developed socialist society;

—the well-being of the fraternal GDR people;

—the traditional solidarity and friendship between the peoples of the GDR and the LPDR;

—the health of Comrade Erich Honecker;

—the health of the Comrades of the GDR party and state leadership;

—the health of all those present here.

Honecker Awarded Laotian Honors

AU2109134788 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 20 Sep 88 p 2

[Speech by Kaysone Phomvihan, general secretary of the Central Committee of the LPRP and chairman of the Council of Ministers of the LPDR, on 19 September in East Berlin, on the occasion of presenting Erich Honecker with the LPDR's Order of the Nation in Gold: "Honoring of a Staunch Revolutionary Fighter"]

[Text] Esteemed Comrade Erich Honecker, dear comrades:

It is a great honor for me to present you, Comrade Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council, on behalf of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee, the supreme people's representation, and the LPDR Council of Ministers, with the Order of the Nation in Gold, the highest award of the LPDR.

Esteemed Comrade Erich Honecker, our party, our state, and our people know and appreciate you as a staunch revolutionary fighter, a true patriot, and an excellent statesman in the international arena. During your revolutionary activity of more than 60 years, you have made enormous efforts in your struggle against fascism, in the building of socialism, and especially, in the shaping of the developed socialist society in the GDR since the early seventies. At the same time, you have made an active contribution to consolidating the socialist community and the unity of the international workers movement. You have actively and resolutely worked for peace, security, and cooperation in Europe and the world.

Esteemed Comrade Erich Honecker, you are a close and sincere friend of our party, our state, and our people. You follow the revolutionary process in Laos with great interest. This has been reflected in the support and help, which the GDR granted our people in its national liberation struggle against the imperialist aggressors, and—currently—in the protection and building of our country.

Comrade Erich Honecker, you being presented today with the Order of the Nation in Gold is a vivid expression of the sincere feelings, the deep veneration and gratitude that the party, the state, and the people of the LPDR have for you, for your great merits in strengthening and developing the bonds of solidarity, the fraternal friendship, and the comprehensive cooperation between Laos and the GDR.

In deep affinity I wish you much creative strength, great successes in your extremely responsible work, and personal well-being. Please allow me now to solemnly present you with the Order of the Nation in Gold.

Honecker Expresses Thanks for Award

AU2109143488 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 20 Sep 88 p 2

[Speech by Erich Honecker upon receiving LPDR award on 19 September in East Berlin: "Symbolic Expression of Close Relations"]

[Text] Dear Comrade Kaysone Phomvihan,

It is a great honor for me to receive the Order of the Nation in Gold, the highest award of the LPDR. Please permit me to express my cordial gratitude to the Lao party and state leadership.

I consider this award to be a symbolic expression of the close fraternal ties and the fruitful cooperation, which link our two parties, states, and peoples. At the same time, I regard this distinction as a token of your high appreciation for the work of the SED and the achievements of the GDR people.

In a few days we will commemorate the anniversary of the signing of the treaty on friendship and cooperation, which you, dear Comrade Kaysone Phomvihan, and I signed here in Berlin, the capital of the GDR. The 6 years that have passed since then have visibly demonstrated that we were right when in 1982 we said that the treaty would initiate a new stage in the cooperation between the GDR and the LPDR.

Looking at our relations, we can proudly strike a positive balance. Dear Comrade Kaysone Phomvihan, our traditional meetings have been characterized by deep mutual understanding and trust. You are always providing the stimuli for the continuous comprehensive shaping of our relations.

I am convinced that the talks during your present visit to the GDR will also serve further progress. In line with the high responsibility of our parties we will discuss ways to further strengthen cooperation between our countries and their people to our mutual benefit. In this process we will be guided by the time-tested principles of Marxism-Leninism and of proletarian internationalism.

As fellow-fighters and friends we are aware of the importance—reaching far beyond national borders—of the struggle of the Lao people for the progress of society. This struggle serves to strengthen socialism, to increase its international attractiveness, and our joint efforts to safeguard peace.

Dear Comrade Kaysone Phomvihan, let me once more express my sincere gratitude to you. Be assured that the SED will continue to do everything in its power to strengthen and consolidate the fraternal alliance between our two peoples and parties.

Phomvihan Arrives in Halle

LD2009174388 East Berlin Voice of GDR Domestic Service in German 1200 GMT 20 Sep 88

[Text] Kaysone Phomvihan, general secretary of the LPRP Central Committee, arrived this morning on a visit to Halle. He was welcomed by Hans-Joachim Boehme, first secretary of the SED Area [Bezirk] Executive, and Politburo member. He briefed his guest about local political, economic, cultural and social developments.

Honecker-Phomvihan Talks Conclude

LD2109132288 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1112 GMT 21 Sep 88

[Excerpt] Berlin, 21 Sep (ADN)—The leaders of the GDR and the LPDR, Erich Honecker and Kaysone Phomvihan, concluded their talks in Berlin today.

The general secretary of the SED Central Committee and GDR State Council chairman and the general secretary of the LPRP Central Committee and chairman of the Lao Council of Ministers noted with satisfaction that the exchange of thoughts and views, conducted in a spirit of close solidarity and fraternal friendship, showed a complete agreement of views. Erich Honecker and Kaysone Phomvihan expressed their belief that the results of the talks will visibly stimulate the development of the diverse cooperation between the two parties, states and peoples and will contribute to the consolidation of peace and enhanced influence of socialism. [passage omitted]

Mittag Receives FDP Official Lambsdorff

LD2109145988 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1308 GMT 21 Sep 88

[Text] Berlin, 21 Sep (ADN)—Guenter Mittag, member of the Politburo and secretary of the SED Central Committee, today received Otto Graf Lambsdorff, member of the FDP Presidium, for a talk.

The partners in the talks stressed the positive results achieved since the official visit to the FRG by Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council. It is necessary to continue to realize point by point what was agreed upon in the joint communique.

Guenter Mittag stressed that economic and trade relations are of great importance for the overall relations between the GDR and the FRG, and that the GDR is endeavoring to expand them on the basis of equal rights and mutual advantage. He noted the international capacity of the GDR national economy, which again emerged at the 1988 Leipzig Fall Fair.

Otto Graf Lambsdorff expressed to the GDR his interest in developing relations, including the expansion of trade and economic relations. He referred to a series of promising new starting points and longer-term contracts between firms.

Dr Gerhard Beil, GDR minister for foreign trade, and Dr Hans Otto Braeutigam, head of the FRG Permanent Mission in the GDR, took part in the talks.

Official Receives Nicaraguan Defense Delegation

AU2109164888 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 20 Sep 88 p 2

[Text] East Berlin (ADN)—Werner Kirchhoff, vice president of the GDR National Front National Council, received a delegation of the Sandinist Defense Committee of Nicaragua led by Amelia Elizondo, head of the committee's International Relations Department, for a friendly exchange of views in Berlin on Monday [19 September]. The interlocutors stated with satisfaction that cooperation between the two countries and people's movements is developing steadily and dynamically in all spheres and that it has reached a high level. Werner Kirchhoff stressed that the social forces united in the National Front will continue to support all efforts for a political settlement of the conflict in Central America and will stand in firm solidarity at the side of the Sandinist revolution.

Economic Statistics for August Released

AU0809094788 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 7 Sep 88 p 1

[Text] East Berlin (ADN)—According to preliminary statistical data, the planned growth of the produced national income was achieved. The labor achievements went hand in hand with further improvements in the GDR people's living conditions. Living conditions improved for 52,000 citizens in August. By the end of August retail trade turnover was 4.3 percent above that of last year. Net monetary income of the population rose by 4 percent. The GDR continued to achieve an export surplus in foreign trade.

In industry net production and labor productivity increased by 7 percent, while costs were reduced by 1.4 percent. In August production targets were fulfilled with regard to the majority of the state plan positions. With some products, such as outerwear, spare parts, synthetic

fibers, high-voltage control gear, and others, it is necessary to completely fulfill the planned tasks so as to guarantee supplies to the population, subcontractor products, and exports also in these positions.

In August the combines of industry, the construction sector, and the transportation sector again returned energy sources, raw materials, other materials, and financial funds valued at M189 million directly to the state in the initiative "Return funds to the state—contribute to national income."

The speed of introducing key technologies was constantly high. The increase in office and personal computers amounts to 27 percent. The production of memory units for computer technology doubled compared with last year. The production of printers rose by 31 percent, that of semiconductor components and electronic component parts by 32 percent, that of monolithically integrated circuits by 45 percent, and that of robots by 19 percent.

In August nine facilities from investment projects, which are of great importance to the national economy, were placed in service. These include facilities for the production of:

—automatic washing machines in the VEB Washing Machine Works, Schwarzenberg;

—EC-1834 calculators of the CEMA uniform electronic data processing system in the VEB Robotron-Accounting Machine Works, Karl-Marx-Stadt;

—chip resistors in the VEB "Carl von Ossietzky" Electronic Component Parts, Teltow;

—zinc concentrate in the VEB "Albert Funk" Mining and Metallurgy Combine, Freiberg.

In the construction sector labor productivity rose by 5 percent by the end of August. Costs were reduced by 0.7 percent. By the end of August 140,970 apartments were newly built or modernized. Furthermore, 4,057 places in nurseries, 12,216 places in kindergartens, 1,350 classrooms, and 83 school gymnasiums were completed. Major backlogs in the completion according to plan of classrooms and school gymnasiums have to be eliminated in Dresden, Neubrandenburg, and Rostock Bezirke [areas]. In industrial construction great efforts must be made in order to finish all planned projects according to schedule.

In agriculture the state procurement plan for slaughter animals was overfulfilled by 40,500 tonnes by the end of August, that of milk by 127,500 tonnes, and that of eggs by 181 million units.

By the end of August the railroads transported 4.2 percent more goods than during the same period last year. The posts and telecommunications sector increased its performance by 3.3 percent.

In the individual sectors of industry the following growth in net production and labor productivity and the following reduction in prime costs per M100 of goods production were achieved by the end of August:

	Net production	Labor Productivity	Reductions in prime costs
	— in percent—		
Coal and energy	6.4	6.2	0.7
Ore mining, metallurgical industry, and potash	3.5	4.1	0.8
Chemical industry	8.3	9.0	1.3
Electrical engineering, electronics	14.9	15.5	3.6
Heavy machinery and installation construction	7.2	7.9	1.7
Machine tools and processing machinery construction	8.6	9.4	1.8
General machinery, agricultural machinery, and vehicle construction	5.2	5.6	0.9
Light industry	8.0	4.6	0.7
Glass and ceramics industry	7.0	7.4	1.3
Bezirk-administered industry and foodstuffs industry	6.0	6.5	0.9

Within bezirk-administered industry the following developments in the growth of net production and the production of manufactured goods for the population, and the following reductions in prime costs per M100 of goods production were achieved:

	Net production	Manufactured goods for the population	Reductions in prime costs
		—in percent—	
Capital city of Berlin	12.7	3.2	2.3
Cottbus	5.1	3.5	1.0
Dresden	5.1	3.5	1.0
Erfurt	8.0	7.8	1.7
Frankfurt	7.2	13.1	1.0
Gera	9.4	6.4	1.2
Halle	6.1	10.0	1.6
Karl-Marx-Stadt	4.5	5.9	0.5
Leipzig	6.0	8.5	1.7
Magdeburg	7.3	7.3	1.5
Neubrandenburg	3.9	1.6	no reduction
Potsdam	9.2	5.9	1.3
Rostock	8.7	7.0	1.2
Schwerin	7.8	8.2	1.6
Suhl	5.8	4.5	1.0

Szuros Discusses Recent Romania Visit, Talks

LD2209191688 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1630 GMT 22 Sep 88

[Text] [Presenter] Foreign Minister Peter Varkonyi was asked at a news conference today what results were achieved by the talks of Matyas Szuros in Romania. He could not answer this because he has not yet spoken with the Central Committee secretary; he was attending the Council of Ministers session. However, our correspondent Jozsef Laszlo interviewed Matyas Szuros upon his arrival. Here is his answer:

[Begin recording] [Szuros] We conducted an exchange of views—quite deeply and assiduously—about issues which the Romanian side earlier was not very willing to discuss, based on the approach that these issues constitute exclusively an internal Romanian affair. Therefore, we spoke at length about the way the nationalities issue is developing. We spoke a lot about the so-called settlement regulation [telepueles rendezesi] plan, the matter of chief consulates, the issue of establishing houses of culture, and other things, such as how we conceive the elaboration of the declaration on nationalities—and the declaration on the nationalities issue itself—about which Karoly Grosz and Nicolae Ceausescu agreed upon in principle in Arad.

It repeatedly emerged that the Romanian leaders do not see this nationalities declaration as a separate document, but that there should be a declaration about the whole sphere of Hungarian-Romanian relations, that it should incorporate all the hitherto employed methods, principles and important issues, and that the nationalities issue should figure as a partial issue in this. This solution is not entirely foreign to us, though what we had in mind was that we should once and for all make a clean breast of it, and that there should be a declaration on the nationalities issue which, in its basic principles—thus in its approach, in its methods—would clarify Hungarian-Romanian relations on this issue, and that it should be a forward-looking document of international significance.

[Laszlo] Does this means you also discussed the two points which were taken off the agenda of the general secretaries' discussion at their meeting in Arad?

[Szuros] A discussion mechanism has to be started. Therefore, my visit and my meeting with Central Committee Secretary Stoian, as well as with General Secretary Nicolae Ceausescu, the president of state, formed part of this. I raised the point that it would be expedient for our competent organs to examine how it might once again be possible to create the conditions for the restoration of the chief consulates.

[Laszlo] Is there some chance of this, according to the present state of affairs? Has the Romanian stand changed somewhat since the Arad meeting?

[Szuros] The Romanian side's stance has not changed on this issue. They stated categorically that we should not discuss this issue now: It is not timely, and it is not possible to advance substantively on this matter at present. On the other hand, they do not exclude the possibility that if Hungarian-Romanian relations develop in such a way that the eventual conditions for this might some time in the future be created, this could again be discussed. This was that certain new development which I myself registered, compared to Arad.

[Laszlo] Apart from this, was there any similar new development on other issues? Has there been a change?

[Szuros] There was something similar also in connection with the so-called settlement regulation plan. They said, among other things, that this plan serves the aim of the differences between villages and towns gradually being eradicated; therefore, the system of argument was exactly the same as in Arad. In two places we looked at the situation concerning the construction of these certain agro-industrial centers, near Bucharest, and in County Covasna. What we saw there—we cannot determine if this is a national characteristic, but it is in fact that what we saw, and we have to say this honestly—is that they have started to build the centers, to establish public buildings in places which were vacant spaces, or they are pulling down old houses. This is what we saw in those two places.

At the same time, there were some Romanians who intimated that perhaps they too are to blame if they do not correctly inform international public opinion and Hungary, among others, about this. We in fact started out from the basis—after all, this is what they had said—that 6,000 of the present 13,000 and more settlements would remain. Therefore, is it the plan itself which has to be prevented, or should the Romanians be encouraged to realize it sensibly? In other words, that cultural values should not be destroyed because of this, or that no harm should befall those members of the nationalities.

What we could evaluate, perhaps, was as if the Romanians had reflected that this is not such a simple afair. This requires a large material effort, material means; and perhaps in the depths of their hearts they have taken the international reaction into consideration.

[Laszlo] Comrade Szuros, did the tempo at which the settlement-organization program will continue emerge at the talks?

[Szuros] What emerged was that it is their resolute intention to mould these approximately 500 agro-industrial centres into 90...

[Laszlo, interrupting] So there can be no change in this...

[Szuros continues]... in main lines. [as heard] However, they emphasized that this would happen, not with demolition, reorganization, or the disappearance of houses,

but rather by constructing something new onto what already exists. What we saw, in general, verified this. Yet we cannot draw far-reaching conclusions from this brief visit and these impressions. In any case, I think it is correct and expedient if the delegation which the Romanian side has invited does visit Romania, to study precisely this set of issues, to look around the country, to see how this thing stands.

[Laszlo] Did you speak about the refugee situation, and about family unification, and did the Romanian stand change?

[Szuros] The Romanian standpoint did not change substantively. They said that the affair of the Romanian citizens who had sought refuge in Hungary was the affair of the Hungarians. However, they are not averse to our settling family-unification matters on the merits of the case. Thus, they reiterated that Romania opposes emigration; it opposes their leaving the country. This is also the stand they hold in Vienna. To my knowledge there now are roughly 2,000 such family-unification cases on the agenda—if I understood the information supplied by the Red Cross. Because Romanian citizens are the issue, the Hungarian state can only go as far as certain limits, or certain forms and methods.

[Laszlo] You also met, if only for a short time, Hungarians in Romania. According to some opinions, the Hungarians there feel themselves to be quite helpless. They feel themselves to be somewhat deserted. I do not know whether you had an opportunity to become convinced whether or not these opinions are true.

[Szuros] I met outstanding, or renowned, personalities among the Hungarians in Romania during the program held by our ambassador in Bucharest, at which Romanian and Hungarian personalities alike were present. Some historical information is necessary here. We know how the life of a community, or its leaders, shapes up amid certain circumstances. Perhaps this is a general diplomatic innuendo. We know that for a long time it was said in the Soviet Union, or here in our country—let us not discomfit or mention others—that the nationality issue had been resolved forever, and that this was virtually automatically settled by socialism.

We know in retrospect that this does not accord with reality. We know what kinds of structures take shape in socialist countries when the free expression of opinions is not such a simple thing.

[Laszlo] Do you think that the statement is correct—that these discussions, properly speaking, are talks without illusions?

[Szuros] That is so. The issue is precisely that we have no illusions vis-a-vis one another; at least we have none. It is necessary to talk, and the impossible must be attempted.

Says 'No Change' in Romanian Stand

LD2209194588 Budapest Television Service in Hungarian 1730 GMT 22 Sep 88

[Text] [Presenter] Matyas Szuros, the Party Central Committee secretary, on his return from Bucharest spoke to correspondent Katalin Rangos about the discussions with representatives of the Romanian Party. It is worth mentioning that the exchange of views between Nicolae Ceausescu and Matyas Szuros lasted nearly 3 hours. Here is the interview:

[Begin recording] [Rangos] What program package did you take, and did they await you with a pre-determined draft of what they wanted to talk about?

[Szuros] Yes. The Politburo gave me the authorization to take the important issues of Hungarian-Romanian relations one by one, starting out on the basis that both sides had assessed the Arad meeting of general secretaries as purposeful and important. Therefore, the very fact that we had a discussion, that the meeting came about, was important, both from the point of view of Hungarian-Romanian relations, and as a part of European processes. At that time, too, our endeavor was—and we unequivocally gave expression to this, and we tried to assert it in practice—that the disputed issues have to be settled by way of negotiation. If need be, even the impossible must be attempted.

Our other endeavor was that not only this meeting should take place, but that we should start up a process of discussions, a mechanism. My visit—that is the meeting of foreign secretaries—was part of this. Our task was that on the basis of the principled agreements and promises that evolved earlier, we should work out a concrete plan of measures. At the same time the Politburo decided that once and for all that Party and government tasks must be separated, because there is confusion here.

In Bucharest I found that the inviting side, Ion Stoian, Party Central Committee secretary, likewise had authorization from the Political Executive Committee for him to submit a concrete draft proposal. This happened. We noted with satisfaction that we were again hearing the Hungarian proposals made in Arad. Comrade Ion Stoian in essence repeated those. There were no new Romanian proposals—none. At the same time I have to say—before I explain what our representation was—that the meeting took place in a very good, friendly atmosphere, despite the fact that we conducted hard and lengthy discussions.

[Rangos] Can we return to the program package you took with you?

[Szuros] Yes. We sketched in fairly great detail how we conceive the elaboration of the specific nationalities declaration, on which there was a principled agreement in Arad. We held a very lengthy and substantive

exchange of views about the nationalities issue with the Romanian partners, even if we could see that the standpoints on this issue are, well, quite far apart from one another.

[Rangos] At the Arad meeting the restoration of chief consulates was unequivocally rejected. Was this raised at the present discussions?

[Szuros] This was the second most important of the five issues. It was also interesting, considering its atmosphere, that the Romanian reaction was not explicitly negative. They also know that they do indeed have duties; after all, the agreement is in force. At the same time they categorically stated that we should not discuss this now: "This is not on the agenda." On the other hand, they do not rule out that perhaps in the future a situation could evolve when its conditions could come into existence, or an atmosphere, situation, circumstances, could develop between the two neighboring countries such that a further discussion about the restoration of chief consulates might not be impossible. This too I consider to be a small advance in the mood, the character of the discussions, which perhaps is worth noticing, whereas even in this issue we have no illusions. We will start out from the realities. This was also stressed by our Romanian partners.

[Rangos] How far can we still have illusions in connection with the settlement regulation plan?

[Szuros] For me, the impression that took shape is that perhaps our Romanian friends have also reflected that it is not so simple to implement such a grandoise plan, that it costs a great deal, that it affects human destinies, that...

[Rangos, interrupting] The international protests, too, perhaps?

[Szuros continues] ...That the affair is receiving a massive international reaction, and not only a reaction but also protests. International pressure is weighing on Romania in this issue. It seemed to me as if our Romanian friends had perhaps drawn certain conclusions for themselves.

[Rangos] You evidently also spoke about refugee issues.

[Szuros] A factual situation has evolved, and in this situation we have to conduct bilateral discussions about the way in which family reunification problems can be resolved. Accordinng to Red Cross data, it is a question of at least 2,000 children and relatives whose problems ought to be resolved.

[Rangos] What is the Romanian stand on the family reunification issue?

[Szuros] What it is in fact is that Romania opposes emigration and migration. It is this—this approach—which they represent in Vienna as well, as both the general secretary and my counterpart also stressed. On the other hand, in justified cases, they are willing to promote the settlement of family reunification problems.

[Rangos] Is it in such a manner that they will permit the relatives to leave Hungary?

[Szuros] Well, in such a way that they will permit the children, the relatives to leave.

[Rangos] How do you evaluate the first important step in Hungarian-Ronamian relations after the Arad meeting? Has the matter moved forward?

[Szuros] My evaluation is that there is no change in the Romanian stand on the fundamental issues. We did not even expect this, because it is not possible to change the standpoint of a country or a party from outside. No doubt the Romanian side does not believe this about us, either, that under outside influence or requests we would alter the policy, the approaches which in our country the elected bodies—the Central Committee, or in the state Line, the parliament, the government—evolve. Nevertheless, I think that in respect of the atmosphere, in the handling of certain issues, in the honesty, in the approach to the issues, we have advanced somewhat. Therefore, we must continue the discussions. The competent party, state, and government organs have to begin to coordinate concrete tasks and their implementation. [end recording]

Petition to Straub Protests Nagymaros Dam

AU1509151688 Budapest MAGYAR NEMZET in Hungarian 13 Sep 88 p 3

[Petition submitted to President Bruno F. Straub by delegates of a demonstration held in Budapest on 12 September to protest the construction of the Bos-Nagymaros River Dam system]

[Text] To MSZMP General Secretary Karoly Grosz!

To Presidential Council President Bruno F. Straub!

To Minister of State Imre Pozsgay!

Esteemed Mr General Secretary, Mr President, and Mr Minister!

On behalf of the member groups of the Nagymaros Committee who signed this document and on behalf of other organizations who share our opinion, we hereby formulate our conviction regarding the Bos-Nagymaros river dam system, and our subsequent position:

1. Although there was enough time available, preparations for this project were basically unsuccessful. We regard it as impossible and as a deliberate attempt to cause damage that tests that should have been carried

out prior to planning, and which should be used during planning stages, are being carried out during the construction and following the construction of this project.

2. It is inadmissible that the destruction of archaeological and architectural memorials to the universal history of mankind and the destruction of a historical region that has become a national symbol are totally disregarded.

3. We regard the poisoning of this water reserve to be unique in Europe, and we view the implementation of a megalomaniac plan that affects 25 percent of our water reserves as a crime committed against the future of our country. Experiences on the Rhine and in Belgrade prove that materials that start floating as a result of a drop in the speed of the river flow hinder the infiltration of water into wells. A total of 100,000-150,000 cubic meters of sewage water flow daily into the Danube from the Hungarian side alone, but we do not have funds for a biological purification system, which is absolutely necessary according to the Hungarian Academy of Sciences—nor will we have the necessary funds in the foreseeable future. Sewage water purification along the river bank settlements below Gyor alone would cost an estimated 16-18 billion forints. According to the Scientific Research Institute on Water Resources and the Water Resources Planning Office, the cavern waters of the Dunantul area will also become "irreversibly and completely" polluted.

4. Virus contamination will increase between Bratislava and Budapest, and our disease and mortality rates are already among the worst in Europe.

5. Destruction of the genetic resources in the Szigetkoz area will have a long-term negative effect on other rivers, too.

6. A total of 1.2-2.5 million cubic meters of polluted and poisonous silt, or even as much as 5.6 million cubic meters will be deposited here. In addition to the high cost of dredging, the storage of this silt is an unsolved problem.

7. Shipping, which is used as a serious argument in favor of this project, is, in fact, a pseudo argument. The shipping problem can be solved for a fraction of this sum and can be solved more simply, and the number of outdated ships can be modernized. The incorrectly built locks will slow down the traffic. (The Danube-Main-Rhine transcontinental river canal has proved inefficient.)

Our obsolete public road and railroad network could be modernized with this money.

8. Only energy rationalization can efficiently contribute to the Hungarian energy policy. The proved energy potential of the Hungarian sector of the Danube is too low to be profitable.

9. By transforming the inefficient power stations currently in operation, which must be converted into combined-cycle power stations, we would obtain electric power well exceeding the capacity of the Bos-Nagymaros river dam system, without increasing the amount of fuel, that is, without additional imports.

10. The contracts with Austria are clearly and inexplicably disadvantageous for us. The Hungarian leadership that proclaims itself to be socialist surrenders the country to Austrian capitalistic efforts that possess surplus financial and technological means.

11. We regard it as irresponsible and contrary to our defensive interests that we artificially create hazardous and strategically dangerous points on Hungary's territory. (The water level of Dunakiliti reservoir will increase and the water level at Esztergom will be 160 cm higher.)

12. In addition to the extremely great financial loss caused by the destruction of agricultural, forest, and fishing areas, this will lead to the creation of an unemployed, semi-industrial proletariat lost its land.

13. In describing all of this, we have not yet mentioned the emerging social and political problems. We are convinced that, in our current tense economic situation which is on the razor's edge, such an investment of close to 100 billion forints will increase the catastrophic feeling in our society. In regard to this investment, the leadership has openly stated that "we would not start it again with today's knowledge." This is the same as the open recognition of the damaging and unprofitable character of this investment project. The entire people's economy will pay for a long time for the momentary profits of certain ministries. Those who claim that international agreements cannot be changed are wrong, because this agreement has already undergone two changes. (Besides, there are real and legal conditions for canceling this agreement.) Even taking into account the total sum paid as possible compensation and the funds invested to date, we would still come out ahead with a positive balance if we were to halt the construction.

We feel that the old leadership wants the current leadership to take over its own fateful mistake, and thus, place the responsibility for every current and future deed on the current decisionmakers or on those who are afraid to make decisions.

At the same time, we cannot be silent about the problems connected with our national identity, either. For almost 1,000 years, the Hungarian Constitution has made it the responsibility of all leaders and leaderships to safeguard the interests of our country, including our natural resources and including our inalienable rivers. Thus, we should not permit the Danube to be diverted into a river canal on CSSR territory.

Last, but not least, we cannot tolerate the further deterioration of the fate of the Hungarian national minority living in the CSSR, an ethnic group which is in a difficult situation as it is, or the deliberate contribution of the Hungarian leadership to the destruction of the ethnically unique Hungarian villages in the Csallokoz area. As a result, we will have to face increased reaction and further dissatisfaction from the general public, which is already sensitive to national minority issues.

Taking all of this into account, and fully aware of our determination as citizens and our responsibility for the future, we demand an immediate halt to the construction of this hydroelectric power station!

If the government and the party are not equal to the task of making an immediate and final decision, we demand an immediate halt to the construction and the calling of a referendum!

We hope that this manifestation of the citizens' will meets with understanding on the part of the Hungarian leadership, and that this understanding will lead to the beginning of a new consensus.

Budapest, 12 September 1988

Member groups of the Nagymaros Committee.

Marosan Interviewed on Issue

LD1809214388 Budapest Television Service in Hungarian 1700 GMT 18 Sep 88

[Interview with government spokesman Gyorgy Marosan by unidentified correspondent; date and place not given—live or recorded]

[Text] [Announcer] Hungarian Television's political magazine HET has interviewed government spokesman Gyorgy Marosan about the Monday demonstration against the construction of the Gabcikovo-Nagymaros dam.

[Question] What does the government think of the fact that in Hungary, a socialist country, 20,000 people demonstrate in front of the parliament.

[Marosan] The government holds that in a democratic society several forms must be available for people to express their opinion, their contrary opinion or objection. The government holds protest to be a civil right. As regards the Monday demonstration, I think it was disciplined and organized. As long as such a demonstration is an expression of readiness for cooperation and compromise, and it supports concensus, the government considers it to be natural and useful. Problems arise only when elements which aim to stir up political moods come to the surface during the event.

[Question] Does an event like this influence the government's decision?

[Marosan] As a matter of course the government pays attention to such signs. However, the government must not make decisions under the influence of mood but weigh all the facts.

[Question] One of the slogans of the demonstration demanded an immediate referendum. What is the government's view on this?

[Marosan] Before I outline the government's stand, let me say some words on the problems of decision-making. It is obvious that a referendum could be relevant only to the works in progress in Hungary. The referendum should decide whether to continue or whether to call a halt to the project. In this context, usually the project is rejected on the basis of ecological, economic and other arguments.

Ecological counter arguments voice anxiety over the possibility of great environmental problems. The government understands and shares this anxiety, and it proclaimed that the possibility of damage to the environment should be minimized. As the Hungarian public is not sure if the government will be capable of realizing this, and if the projects will be completed as planned, the government voiced its intention of putting the whole project under social supervision, which means the establishment of social committees that could carry out monitoring during construction.

Regarding the economic arguments, it must be clear—and it is in this spirit that the government submitted a report to the parliament—that one third of the project has already been completed. That is, to finish the power plant and make another part of the Danube navigable we have to complete the remaining two thirds. Weighing the proposal of halting the project we have to take into consideration the fact that restoring the original conditions would cost about the same sum as we have already invested in the first third of the project, and I have not talked about the compensation demands and the funds necessary to make the river navigable. Under this consideration the Hungarian Government holds that in this case of decision-making, it is more rational to complete the project.

The third argument comprises political questions, of which I would mention only one. Hungary's relations with one of its neighboring socialist countries is already burdened enough. Is it expedient in this case to shoulder further tension deriving from the cancellation of international agreements? The Hungarian Government's opinion is the same as that of all the countries concerned, that is, in the present situation these agreements must be observed and the construction must continue. Taking these arguments into consideration the government is to make a proposal to parliament on continuing the construction, and the government will not propose a referendum.

[Question] And is there enough time before parliament's decision for the government to be able to influence public opinion—after all, as you have just said, it is here first and foremost a question of politics and no longer only of economic issues—in the direction of the professional issues?

[Marosan] At all events, we are late. Although it has to be said that in the past, quite a lot of information saw the light of day. In order for us to inform the public about professional issues in every respect, there is now very little possibility for this, although the government spokesmen have also attempted to do this in the course of earlier press conferences. It has to be seen clearly that there will no longer be a possibility for this. However, it has to be emphasized that one must always try to separate the professional issues and the political issues from one another. To the professional questions the government gives professional answers, whereas to the political questions it gives political answers, as long as they are within the constitutional frameworks.

[Question] Now, if perchance parliament does not accept the government's decision, then what is the situation? What can the government then propose?

[Marosan] Parliament has the following options: Parliament will discuss the briefing of the minister of Environmental Protection. Parliament could accept this report. Parliament could accept this report with certain conditions. That is, that it obliges the government to take certain measures.

It is of course also conceivable that parliament does not accept this report, which has been submitted by the minister of environmental protection and water management, but with which the government is naturally in agreement; parliament refers it back to the government for amplification. And in that event the government will now submit its report to parliament.

It is also conceivable that parliament does not accept the report, but it does not return it to the government, instead it sends out a parliamentary committee which could decide, among other things, on such issues as—it could also examine—what could be the conditions, the consequences, of the project being halted.

KISZ Leaders on 'Pro-Reform' Evenings

LD1809230188 Budapest Television Service in Hungarian 1700 GMT 18 Sep 88

[From "The Week" program]

[Excerpts] [Presenter] Dear viewers, as promised we now return to the "Pro-Reform Evenings" series of events. [passage omitted] I now introduce our studio guests: Imre Nagy, secretary of the KISZ Central Committee, and Peter Kiss, first secretary of the Budapest KISZ Committee. Let me put a question to Peter Kiss—after all the "Pro-Reform Evenings" series of events was organized by you. Now then, how did this, should I say, politicizing series succeed? It attracted not only young people, as we could see in the television newsreel as well, but, should I say by breaking through the generation barriers; virtually everyone, so many people were interested in it.

[Kiss] Thank you very much; it is good to hear it. In our opinion it was successful, though I must add right away that the success of the event will be measurable later. It can be measured by whether changes come about, whether our own way of thinking will change and whether reality will change in the direction formulated by us.

[Presenter] Excuse me if I interrupt, but this answer seems to me sort of general, which at the same time anticipates the next question. For, ever since the May party conference, very many people profess that the reform process has slowed down, and those who profess this generally put it this way. We talk, we talk, we talk about the right things, only the deeds are lacking. Therefore, what does the image of the future, which you started on just now, really look like?

[Kiss] Well, we think that we can contribute to it if we do not just use rhetoric, but if we say what we imagine behind this. That is, what opinions, what theses, what direction and what action the reform signifies for us. On the 1st day [12 September, Monday] our formulation was: Toward Democratic Socialism. And what the forum series has so far testified is that this could be, perhaps for the whole of society, a basis for some kind of social dialogue.

The rest—so that we should be clear about the present-day situation, because that has to be our starting point—could be formulated somewhat like the title of the lecture on the 2d day: The Way Leading to the Future. One of its lessons is that, to be sure, this path leading to the future is a fairly narrow path. We have to face this, and then a common action must be found for this, in dialogue, in new communication.

[Presenter] This democratic socialism, which we use so many times nowadays, if I could ask you, what does this mean?

[Kiss] I would mention three things. One: A society which wishes to develop social freedom through the freedom rights of the individual. Second: A society with a mixed economy, with mixed property relations. Third: A structured pluralistic society in which the strata, the classes, cooperate in the interest of the social objective.

[Presenter] It is an open secret that nowadays the KISZ is not very capable of fulfilling its function, it is not proving equal to its task, its situation. Transformation, renewal, are necessary here as well, which I believe can be achieved if KISZ tries to create partner-like relations,

manifest an intention to cooperate, with the various self-organizing youth groups, movements. Is my view correct? Is there a possibility for this?

[Nagy] Certainly, there is a possibility, but I believe that this can only be one element of KISZ's renewal. What I consider most important today is that KISZ, building on the fact that the party conference has created the possibility for the political turn-about that we, too, have been urging, but that it could not yet automatically bring about the turn—at every level this represents very serious political struggles, political skirmishings [csatarozas]—should take part in this skirmishing, by joining forces with every force wanting real change. And I see that KISZ has played an active role, let us say in County Hajdu-Bihar, in County Csongrad, in County Vas, in so far as decisions have been taken to convene party conferences, and in other counties, too, it was involved in organizing the convening of either party conferences or other forums, decisions, movements—for instance in Baranya at the beginning of the summer. This is one side of the KISZ reform, in other words the issues of content. The other side is that if we are urging the reform of the system of political institutions, then the reform also of the system of youth institutions must be a natural consequence of this.

Therefore, KISZ will not remain the only political youth organization in Hungary—I would remark that even today it is not the only one and in the future it will be even less so. If, on the other hand, there will be a more multicolored, more pluralistic system of youth organizations, then one cannot shut oneself in and shun discussion with others. Therefore, there is a need for dialogue, cooperation, with every youth force—to narrow it down to this generation—which is ready and willing to act responsibly for a new socialist Hungary.

This is already in process. Therefore, the dialogue, the cooperation, are already underway. For instance, we are organizing nationwide the National Council of Hungarian Youth, which would be a forum for the dialogue of various youth forces. This council will probably already be formed in the fall. But the dialogue already exists today. And what is still essential for it is that KISZ must be transformed inside as well. It is not enough to change its external system of relations. That is why we have convened the KISZ National Conference for November, in a sports hall of Szekesfehervar. Therefore the venue, the manner, also indicate that it is a new kind of format. And that is why we are planning that in the spring of next year we would hold the 12th KISZ Congress.

The future of KISZ must be decided by the membership, and the really wide-ranging debate about this would take place between the conference and the congress.

[Presenter] Thank you very much.

Ivanyi Comments on 'Leader Privileges'

LD1809083288 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1400 GMT 17 Sep 88

[From the "168 Hours" program]

[Text] [Announcer] Zsuzsa Szikra has spoken about leader privileges with Pal Ivanyi, chairman of the Budapest Council [and MSZMP Politburo member]. She arrived for the interview somewhat earlier than planned and found a jurist there. The council chairman was at a loss and had turned to him to find out what his privileges were.

[Begin recording] [Ivanyi] I have asked my colleague to tell me what the privileges of leaders are, because when I came in I was speculating about what privileges could be listed, knowing that you were going to come here to question me on this.

[Szikra] I will switch over to your colleague for a bit and we can then continue the conversation.

[Unidentified jurist] I am [word indistinct] Gyulai.

[Szikra] In what capacity are you here?

[Jurist] I work for the [word indistinct] chairman's office.

[Szikra] Do you know what privileges he is entitled to, apart from salary?

[Jurist] What I know is that there is a collection of legal rules, which lists the rules that the leaders must observe.

[Szikra] Yes, I see that you are also very embarrassed. I believe that I caused your embarrassment by arriving 2 minutes earlier than the arranged time, catching you red-handed in your preliminary discussions. Is this the first time that you have discussed this?

[Jurist] For the two of us, yes. We are also getting acquainted with the topic.

[Ivanyi] [Words indistinct] so he does not know what to say because I was also speculating over what I would say to the questions asked. First, a provision pertaining to state leaders was recently formulated concerning dwellings, (?not an easy) item: the level of entitlement plus one room. It, of course, is an advantage—I put this word in quotation marks—if a person comes up from the countryside, after being appointed or elected a minister. Obviously, he gets a dwelling out of turn or we try to find one which suits him and which fits this category.

The rules pertaining to leaders' salaries have been made public. Apart from that, there is no remuneration in money; rather, it is possible for a maximum of a month's recompense to be given, according to the current rules.

Regarding nonmonetary remuneration, if you like: the use of a car. Ministers or people with the rank of minister are entitled to a Mercedes car, a small one, or a 1300 Zsiguli, or a 1500 Zsiguli.

There is no extra remuneration for being a Politburo member instead of chairman of the council. Of course, the difference is that the government guard, and not the Budapest council, provides the car. I have saved the Budapest council two cars.

I am still thinking about what other remuneration there is. You can use the government vacation home. By the way, you must pay for the government vacation home just like for other vacation homes, and perhaps somewhat more has to be paid. True, there is a very good standard of provision. That is roughly what there is substantively.

Now, to be frank, I am also thinking about the little things. My colleague has told me: Of course, you are closer to the pot of meat. I do not know whether this should be called a pot of meat. I do not see much meat in it, but, rather, many bones so...

[Szikra] The topic of meat has made me wonder what you eat?

[Ivanyi] Lunch is brought from our cafeteria. If I have time, I eat it; if I do not have time, I do not eat it. I pay the same price as that paid by colleagues and I eat that food. Of course, it is true that we go to receptions more frequently, and I would like to add that my colleagues know this well, but it is a bit like going to the dentist. However, we delinquents [delikvensek] are kept well there, and this is not a privilege; it is merely remuneration for work. I would not call it a privilege. Otherwise, there really are no kinds of privileges which diverge from the normal citizens, that is the regulated order, or which provide an opportunity for this.

[Szikra] I am thinking of one thing, however: for example, you have a special housing allocation; you have special access permits which when the new plan for regulating the inner city was evolved and the struggle was being waged around the access permits, then you said point-blank that you were not willing to issue these on receipt of a phone call just because they are status symbols, but only to those who need them; and if it is an ordinary citizen, he will get it. and....

[Ivanyi, interrupting] Well then, let us take them in turn. I am very glad that you have raised this matter of the housing allocation. In this connection, a very great deal of dust was stirred up by "168 Hours." There was the report connected with the Milan Fuest apartment, was there not? Indeed, the chairman has the parliamentary right to make use of one percent of the executive committee's housing allocation, which of course the chairman does not keep in his own hands, but which he passes on to one of his colleagues. Now, this one percent was and is established for accomplishing tasks of the type we spoke about earlier, when somebody is posted to a state office or the immediate handling of glaring social problems. Now, learning from the experience of the Milan Fuest affair, the Executive Committee decided, correctly I believe, to refer to the utilization of this allocation as well to a committee's sphere of authority. Therefore, I can report that I do not have such a permit, to my greatest joy, I wish to add. The second thing is this business of access. The correct way of handling this is that you must not depart from the proclaimed principles. Finally, if we make no exception for anyone, then I think that we have a moral basis for saying no to anyone.

[Szikra] You have?

[Ivanyi] The apparat has, too; because that is very important.

[Szikra] You have a few permits which as chairman of the Metropolitan Council you can hand out, do you not?

[Ivanyi] I do. Indeed, I have three of them; I am keeping them here in my bag.

[Szikra] You have not handed them out?

[Ivanyi] No.

[Szikra] Do you not even intend to?

[Ivanyi] No.

[Szikra] Do you have any other such unexercised [word indistinct] privileges. I do not know what to call them.

[Ivanyi] Look, I have, for instance, a season ticket for a swimming pool. The swimming pools directorate comes under the Metropolitan Council. Every year when the swimming pools directorate issues season tickets, then it sends a few season tickets here as well, on the basis of consideration. I can show you; I have several here in my desk. I do not hand them out. (?It is messy).

[Szikra] It is very good that you have opened your drawer; I am coming to look inside it. What else do you keep here? Here are the waiting permits. Indeed, there are not three but five of them.

[Ivanyi] Oh, yes.

[Szikra] You have actually got some permits here; will you show them to me?

[Ivanyi] Of course. This one is a sports circle certificate; this is my own. Here is a gate entry, here in Budapest. A fishing permit. An honorary ticket for events at the International Fair Center'88. And a club visit ticket.

[Szikra] Do you use these?

[Ivanyi] [word indistinct] I keep them here in my desk; I collect them here; I do not use them because I simply do not have the time. [end recording]

'New March Front' Founders Discuss Movement

LD1809083888 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1400 GMT 17 Sep 88

[From the "168 Hours" program]

[Text] [Announcer] The New March Front was established this week. Eszter Radai talks of two of the founders: Rezso Nyers [MSZMP Politburo member] and Sandro Fekete [editor in chief of UJ TUEKOER]. Their conversation explains why the New March Front was formed in September.

[Begin recording] [Radai] The declaration, the appeal for a spiritual foundation to social renewal, was formulated definitely in March. It appears now, toward the end of September. What is the reason for this very long delay? Similar remarks have also been made in other interviews by other speakers, but only shadowy conclusions have been drawn as to the reason for this.

[Nyers] We drew up the declaration even before the party's political turnabout and change in political style. If it had appeared then, in the political circumstances of the time, it would have caused confusion. For this reason, it could not appear. Even after the party conference, the political style, the frameworks, and scope of political public life still had to be evolved. Well, that took time.

[Radai] Would it really have caused confusion? After all, your objective was for it to appear sometime in March. You did not formulate it to be put on the shelf.

[Nyers] That was the judgment of the party leadership at the time, that it would have caused confusion.

[Radai] Who initiated the founding or creation of the New March Front?

[Nyers] The thought occurred to many people simultaneously. We can speak of the virtual simultaneous ripening of a need for action.

[Radai] Did the situation bring this about? If you will allow me, I will quote from the first sentences of the declaration: Hungary is threatened by crisis. The crisis endangers the entire society, politics, the economy. We cannot remain onlookers as this crisis deepens. So, was it responsibility, the sense of responsibility, which...

[Nyers, interrupting] The sense of danger and the sense of responsibility, along with the idea that the party must renew itself. In my opinion, at the same time we also thought that it is not sufficient to try to advance or to resolve social renewal merely with party politics and via party politics.

[Radai] I recall that at around that time Janos Kadar [the MSZMP general secretary] declared that there was no crisis, only crisis phenomena. I remember that at our briefings at the time our attention was primarily drawn precisely to this: that we should not use the word "crisis" since there is no such thing in Hungary today.

[Nyers] In that period, in my opinion, the party leadership and party propaganda had become excessively entangled in the problem of terminological refinements, questions of interpretation. However, people and society wanted open standpoints, which perhaps rather enlarged the situation, the problems, but which also threw light on them. I think that the party leadership of the time—I myself was also on the Central Committee at the time—did not react well in this regard.

[Radai] The declaration was signed by 19 people, 19 very different personalities. Now, how did this circle, this very wide people's front, evolve?

[Fekete] I would like to confess that I was not a founder. I was invited to come to this group. Therefore, I do not know its prehistory in its entirety. I do not even know how much had been preplanned or whether there could have been chance—there always are chance—movements, too. There is no doubt, as you have said, that extraordinary differences are perceptible, from the point of view of generations as well. We have different pasts, different positions in society. There are those who recently turned more sharply against the conditions which had evolved. There are those who turned against them much earlier but who, precisely at the given moment, tried to defend existing positions. So, it is a community divided along generational lines over policy.

One thing, however, I believe, holds this community together. It is that all of them, personally as well, are committed believers in reforming socialism, in radically renewing it so that its spiritual and practical renewal is apparent in every social institution. Let us say...[Fekete changes thought] Well, Rezso Nyers is sitting here opposite me; he is a legendary figure of the'68 renewal. There are those who—let me mention Szilard Ujhelyi or Miklos Vasarhelyi—who proved in the resistance, in the anti-Rakosi struggle and so on that a modern, renewed concept of socialism lives in their heads. Then there are among the young people three of those four expelled party members: Laszlo Lengyel, Mihaly Bihari, and Zoltan Kiraly. If a nonparty person may say this, they were expelled a little bit hastily in my view. They are convinced believers in socialism and they believe that they are real socialists if they struggle for renewal, in contrast to those who have become ossified in old concepts.

[Radai] At that time, within the old March Front there were serious debates about whether it should be a political or a spiritual movement. Which of these is the New March Front?

[Nyers] In my opinion, this is a spiritual union of ideological and political content.

[Fekete] It is an ideological group with definite political content and objectives. But it is not an organization, not a political institution or organization.

[Nyers] The objectives are clearly and openly stated in our declaration. I can sum it up by saying that it is the modernization, the rethinking, of socialism, the dynamic introduction [meghonositas] of democracy and its pairing with socialism, and the shouldering of the most important and biggest issues of national destiny, and the linking of these three. As for what kind of topics we want to deal with, it is to give socialist pluralism a clear, clean, content under Hungarian conditions. That is one topic. In this connection, we want to confront both the possibilities existing within a one-party system and the long-term possibilities of a multiparty system.

[Radai] This is—I must use this expression—a piquant business. That is, a Politburo member here and now is taking part in a spiritual movement which is perhaps dealing with the possibilities of a multiparty system.

[Nyers] In other socialist countries, or in some socialist countries, there already exists a multiparty system. Well, we consider this interesting and worth being studied by us. However, in my view, the most urgent and most important thing is that we seek alongside a one-party system the possibilities of pluralism, shades of opinion, and the forming of a democratic consensus. This is what we now have; this is what we must be able to do better now. The possibilities for this have not been exhausted.

[Radai] How should we interpret the call for coalition elements to appear in government? There is a sentence to this effect.

[Fekete] In my view, it does not necessarily mean that members of a coalition party which last operated in Hungary should in some manner come into being.

It does mean that, whether from among those interests which these parties formerly represented or whether from among the spiritual inheritance which in some way they have left behind, everything that can be utilized for democratic socialism is very much worth resurrecting, adapting. Let me repeat it: Some kind of pluralistic framework must be secured for this. At this moment, I completely agree with Rezso Nyers that the possibility for this has to be guaranteed even within the frameworks of a functioning one-party system—let us say by now a not sufficiently well functioning one-party system—without waiting for tomorrow or the day after tomorrow when this can be done differently or better. If this can be done sensibly, then it will in all probability lead to many kinds of new formations which have not existed in socialism so far.

[Radai] How can we describe the New March Front, which is a very loose organization? Can we describe it as an alternative movement?

[Nyers] It does not belong to the ranks of the alternative movements which are nowadays emerging, because that is not its objective nor is it its purpose to line up the masses with organizational means behind objectives. Instead, it is supposed to mediate between the party, the government, the leadership, and the intelligentsia. It wants spiritual mediation.

[Fekete] On Hungarian Television Julianna P. Szuecs was asked about the New March Front. The program announcer, with perhaps a somewhat pejorative edge, asked whether this whole thing was not an excessively intellectual affair. I do not think that this effort deserves some pejorative epithet, that an intellectual group wants to examine various aspects of Hungarian life...

[Radai, interrupting] Continuously...

[Fekete] Continuously. It wants to make its own spiritual standpoint on this. Well, in the last resort, the essence of every renewal, what we want, is that it not turn into a catastrophe, adventurism, or bankruptcy, but a spiritual foundation. This foundation must not be the monopoly of a single political party. One of the aims of the whole change is precisely that the most varied social strata, tendencies, and intellectual groups should be able to add their own bit to this spiritual foundation. If in this big movement there are also efforts which in essence manifest a potential movement toward party organization in this or that (?region), I for my own part do not oppose this. It is probable that in the near future these efforts may be given a role. To the best of my knowledge, the New March Front does not want to become a party. Nevertheless, we may become linked to alternative groups if we are able to develop a partnerlike cooperation in debates. Apart from this, of course we ourselves also offer alternatives; if we were to consider some concept of the party or the state as debatable or needing correction, then it is our spiritual duty and moral duty, in the form of reform socialism, to develop a different concept, without our wanting straight away to organize an alternative party. [end recording]

Deputy Finance Minister on Tax Reform

AU2109112388 Budapest MAGYAR HIRLAP in Hungarian 17 Sep 88 p 5

[Interview with Deputy Finance Minister Laszlo Bekesi by Maria Lakatos: "Interview With the Deputy Finance Minister—The Pressure of Taxation Is Working—It Is Not the Tax Reform That Has Caused Inflation and a Decrease in Real Wages"; date and place not given]

[Text] The tax reform is again under concentrated fire: The mildest critics also speak about the effect it has on holding back performance and increasing inflation, about hasty legislation, and a rushed tax reform. Many

deputies feel that they have been cheated, and that 6 months after the introduction of the tax reform they have received only responsibilities, instead of the promised advantages. Many people demand that it be withdrawn or that there be a considerable increase in exemptions, which is, essentially, the same. However, the Finance Ministry is sticking to the principles declared last year—this transpires from Deputy Finance Minister Laszlo Bekesi's interview for MAGYAR HIRLAP.

[Lakatos] Last year several people asked you why it was necessary to submit two tax bills to parliament, bills that were formulated in a hurry and without proper preparation. Most of the mistakes and upsets in the tax reform were caused by this haste.

[Bekesi] You would do better to ask whether we could have postponed the tax reform. What would have caused greater damage: delaying the tax reform or haste and inadequate preparation? It is no longer historically feasible to ask what would have happened if we had introduced this tax system 15 years ago, in the period when our economy was developing or at least in 1978, at a time when there was a change in our economic policy guidelines. The tax reform was delayed and a network of subsidies and withdrawals emerged in which it became impossible to evaluate economic performances. Enterprise performance became essentially a balance between subsidies and the withdrawal of funds, a balance achieved through bargaining. Last year it was unanimously accepted that we should change this impossible situation. In addition to a drastic decrease in subsidies, the withdrawal of funds should be connected with regulations that provide long-term guarantees, in other words, they should be regulated by laws. Considering these principles thoroughly, the solution came naturally: We had to eliminate taxation of the means of production, and apply taxation to final consumers. It has become inevitable to modify the artificially distorted prices and proportions, while the current economic situation also makes it inevitable to limit consumption. Thus, imports will become more expensive and prices will increase, partly as a result of a decrease in subsidies, while we will have to reduce the burdens of investments and exports. There was a tendency toward a deterioration in economic processes, and thus we could not wait any longer, and we certainly had very little time to cope with all these goals and requirements.

The Tax Rates Are Too High [subhead]

[Lakatos] Today, however, opinions differ very much; some economists blame the tax reform for increasing economic problems, the reduced living standard, and increasing inflation.

[Bekesi] We did not expect much enthusiasm last year either. But unfortunately we failed to prepare the population thoroughly and explain the reasons for this move and its consequences and expected effects. Tax reform is not equal to inflation and a decrease in real wages. It is only one reason for the introduction of the two forms of tax, and the basic problem lies in the inadequate economic structure. If we take wage costs, for example, they will immediately show that the introduction of personal income tax has increased the enterprises' expenditures, and they have passed this on in the form of increased prices. If we compare the present taxed profits of the enterprises, profits that exceed last year's levels by 15 billion forints, it is obvious that the enterprises are not swallowing the increasing wage costs, but are passing them on to the population. They can do this because market mechanisms are hardly functioning, and thus there are no economic obstacles to price increases. I know that the general turnover tax is also blamed for inflation, although the change in the tax rate changed prices only once, and this does not have a permanent inflationary effect.

[Lakatos] Large numbers of small artisans and private traders returned their licenses at the beginning of this year, their turnover has dropped, and lack of performance is probably the reason behind shortages. In your view, is this not connected with the tax reform?

[Bekesi] Incomes have been strongly differentiated in recent years. Society finds it difficult to accept this, and the progressive income tax is meant precisely to reduce these differences. Last year we thought that personal income tax alone would regulate the flow of purchasing power in the aforementioned way. I know that the extremely severe wage regulations introduced in 1988 contradict this. Administrative obstacles hindered the increase in wages. At the same time, the enterprises often failed to carry out even the compulsory grossification of wages. As a result, wages do not reflect performance or taxes, and this led to decreased performance. Therefore, we should provide opportunities for wage increases by all means, but this increase will continue to be limited, namely, by the enterprises' ability to pay wages from their income. As is well known, we will eliminate the restrictions within the regulations next year, and the wages will thus have greater scope. We would also like to modify the tax rates, and we will come up with proposals on this in December this year. The starting tax rate is too high, and so its the highest rate of 60 percent; there are too many tax levels between annual incomes of 100,000 and 200,000 forints, and the tax rates increase too rapidly. In addition to adjusting the tax rates to inflation, we also propose modifying them, but, naturally, not to the detriment of the budget.

It Has Become A Target [subhead]

[Lakatos] In that case, the tax burden will be distributed more equally, but the withdrawal of income will continue to be extremely high. This will not help in solving the basic problems.

[Bekesi] I admit that Hungarian society is overtaxed. The rate of taxation is high, compared with the increase in performance. However, if we compare this rate with

our state obligations and our balance requirements, then even this rate of income centralization is too small. We can reduce the tax burden only if we first reduce the state obligations. First of all, we should drastically reduce the subsidies provided to enterprises, and a 3-year program for this is under preparation. I know that many people suggest other solutions, because the taxation of incomes deriving from overtime, second jobs, and from various allowances has increased considerably, and everyone demands tax exemptions. The effects of such a solution can be clearly shown: If, for example, the various allowances are taxed less than the basic wages, the wage structure will immediately change and the proportion of various allowances will increase. In addition, if we tax the various incomes according to their origin, it will be the tax rate, rather than performance, that will determine the direction of wage movements. In short, income problems cannot be solved by modifying the tax rates. We should increase the allowances paid to miners, teachers, and doctors for extra duty in a way that includes taxation.

[Lakatos] It is an open question, however, whether the budget institutions or the enterprises will have enough funds for this. A wider strike than the recent one at the Mecsek mines would demand an easing of taxation anyway.

[Bekesi] Taxes have become a target at which one can shoot safely. Very few people admit that their standard of living would have dropped even without the introduction of income taxes. If we now give in to demands and, for example, stop summing up incomes for taxation and provide separate tax exemptions for various allowances, then we will give up the basic principles we declared when we introduced the tax reform. These are, namely, that every forint of income should be taxed equally, irrespective of its origin. In other words, we will not artificially differentiate between professions or various sectors of the people's economy. In addition, following the basic modifications, this would not be suitable for leveling wages and regulating purchasing power, and thus we cannot eliminate the strict wage regulations. One more thing: After tax exemptions, performance does not increase, it only becomes reorganized. For example, people will work less during the main working hours, because overtime payments are taxed less; in other words, everyone will be interested in working in addition to the main 8 hours of work time at their jobs. I cannot accept this as a solution. Another thing can also be foreseen: More expenditure than usual is involved in overtime in the case of some special allowances, like the mining rescue allowance paid in the case of mining accidents. The allowances would continue to be included in the overall income, but, in justified cases, the tax basis could be reduced by expenses.

It Could Be Reduced.... [subhead]

[Lakatos] If tax exemptions are extended to various strata of wage earners, the others will pay the missing tax forints—according to the current practice. This will lead to further dissatisfaction....

[Bekesi] I think it is not difficult to admit that, the wider the range of allowances, the lower the tax brackets and the higher the tax rates. The tax burden could be eased if we reduced the amount of exemptions. Today, however, everyone is demanding new exemptions and allowances. We are always open to various suggestions for tax modification, but we will not give up our basic principles.

Walesa Optimistic Over Consensus Chances

AU2209185588 Paris AFP in English
1845 GMT 22 Sep 88

[Text] Warsaw, Sept 22 (AFP) - The chances for consensus in Poland are greater than ever, but Monday's resignation of the government came at a bad time, the leader of the outlawed Solidarity trade union, Lech Walesa, said Thursday.

He told journalists in his home city of Gdansk, on the Baltic coast, that the departure of Premier Zbigniew Messner after a parliamentary vote of no confidence was "an element of political destablisation". It was "not the right moment", ahead of negotiations which the authorities have offered to hold with the opposition in October, he said.

"The chances for a consensus are greater than ever in spite of chicanery, arrests and beatings-up", Mr. Walesa said.

The very fact that he had three meetings with Interior Minister Czeslaw Kiszczak had created "a new situation." But, he said, "the first results must become apparent very quickly."

After his first meeting with Gen. Kiszcazk on August 31, Mr. Walesa persuaded workers to call off a nationwide strike, saying that the government had agreed to include discussion on legalising Solidarity in round-table talks with the opposition.

But after a third meeting on Saturday a spokesman for the union quoted a senior communist party negotiator as saying that the government feared a military backlash if it lifted the ban imposed on Solidarity in early 1982.

Mr. Walesa said that the round-table talks must "cover all problems," but he reiterated that "the legalisation of Solidarity comes first and must be discussed first."

He would "never abandon the name of Solidarity", he said.

"The system must change," he went on. "The political, social and economic situation which prevails in Poland and in other countries in the Soviet bloc demands that the system change."

But while "pluralism in trade unions will usher in political pluralism", Solidarity "has never sought and will never seek to take power." The union would "confine itself to pressing for workers' rights and privileges, without mixing in politics."

The military authorities accused Solidarity of seeking power when they declared martial law in Poland in December 1981, several weeks before banning the movement.

PRON Presidium Meets on Roundtable Plans

LD2309093588 Warsaw PAP in English
2032 GMT 22 Sep 88

[Text] Warsaw, Sept. 22—At a meeting held today, the Presidium of the PRON Patriotic Movement for National Rebirth drew attention to social impatience and anxiety so that the "talks about talks", or preparations for the round table in Poland, do not drag too long, and that the time of joint action come about as soon as possible.

The Presidium analyzed opinions and suggestions presented during the session of the PRON Executive Committee, of which it is a part, held in September concerning the application of political and economic reforms, preparations for the "round table" talks and their course as well as PRON's place in the changing political landscape of Poland.

Participants View Roundtable Preparatory Talks

AU2309084688 Warsaw ZYCIE WARSZAWY in Polish
19 Sep 88 pp 1, 2

[ZYCIE WARSZAWY roundup of statements made by participants in the 16 September meeting involving General Czeslaw Kiszczak and Lech Walesa: "A Great Test"]

[Text] Friday's meeting, which formed part of the preparations for a roundtable debate, has aroused great public interest. Today we are publishing statements made by two of the participants: Prof Artur Bodnar of Warsaw University and Prof Jan Janowski, rector of the Mining and Metallurgy Academy in Krakow.

Artur Bodnar: On Friday, 16 September, I took part in a meeting that is the subject of a great deal of interest on the part of people who are interested in politics on a day to day basis, or at least have been for the last few months. Abroad, the meeting has been widely noted as an important event in Polish domestic affairs. General Kiszczak has now held talks with Lech Walesa on three occasions in the last couple of weeks. As was the case on the previous occasion, this particular meeting was also attended by Stanislaw Ciosek, Father Alojzy Orszulik, and Prof Andrzej Stelmachowksi. What was new about the meeting?

First, the number of people involved was increased to 20—more about this in a moment. Second, some of the differences in the positions of the various sides on the organization of a roundtable were ironed out. Third, three subjects for such a meeting were named: the functioning of the state and public life, the acceleration of the expansion and modernization of the national economy, and the nature of the Polish trade union movement. Fourth, it was agreed that the roundtable meeting would begin in mid-October. Finally, fifth, it

was agreed that, as has been the case so far, nothing would be said about what was discussed during the 6-hour-long meeting to ensure that things progress smoothly.

This meeting, like every important political event, has a social background. On this occasion it is one that is very complicated and possesses many elements. It was attended by representatives of the leaderships of the PZPR, the ZSL, and the SD; Catholic activists; representatives of the Episcopate; PRON activists; activists of the former Solidarity union; chairmen of the August strike committees, and representatives of the OPZZ headed by Vice Chairman Romuald Sosnowski. Members of the Consultative Council attached to the State Council, such as Jan Szczepanski, also took part in it. Some of the participants were also Sejm deputies. They included Jerzy Ozdowski, a Sejm vice marshall and a Catholic activist. Some of the new participants in the meeting, such as Wladyslaw Frasyniuk or Henryk Sienkiewicz, had travelled a long and thorny path before taking part in it. Lech Walesa's "team" was dominated by young people.

The meeting can give rise to a variety of conclusions. As a political scientist, I can say that Friday's meeting is the result of the fact that the governing party has recognized the political implications of the diversity of interests, views, and orientations that exist in our society. This fact was affirmed by the party at its most recent Central Committee plenary meetings. It also signifies the political sovereignty (not to be confused with legal sovereignty) of the representatives of these interests, views, and orientations, which also applies to activists of the former Solidarity union, if they recognize the principles of constructive opposition.

To sum up, every one of us can have a different opinion about what the important issues are. Thus, I would like to draw attention to one issue. The party has formulated a doctrine of Polish socialist pluralism and is developing it by way of reaching agreement with its allies and all social forces that recognize the constitutional legal order. If someone were to ask what "socialist" means when it is applied to the term "Polish pluralism," then I would reply that it means pluralism (economic, social, and political), but subject to three limitations. Economic pluralism of a kind that conflicts with the principles of social justice as little as possible. Political pluralism, but without the very wide or narrow, ruthless interaction of social forces that often destroys nations. Pluralism under the conditions that exist in today's Poland also means recognition of the PZPR's leading and guiding role in the state. However, the party does not see this role as being synonymous with a monopoly on the truth or on power. The PZPR deems public control of both an institutionally formalized kind as well as an informal kind to be an essential condition for exercising its leading role in the state.

Friday's meeting, like the two previous ones, is the latest offer to all independent, and opposition circles to overcome the great difficulties that lie in the path leading to the country's modernization in a constructive fashion and by way of joining forces. The offer has been accepted, as evidenced by the composition of the group that held Friday's meeting: The composition of those participating is bound to be enlarged.

But the road leading to a social contract involving all patriotic forces is neither simple nor short. Viewing this issue through the eyes of the average Pole, it has to be said that something must be done fast, because each of us has only one life and conditions are exceptionally difficult. For such a genuine social contract to be concluded, all the signatories must subordinate their individual interests and emotions to the highest cause, which is Poland's well-being. This was and is the wish of the average Pole. If the nation's elite, of whatever persuasion, does not respect these wishes, which include a desire for peace, calm, and a "tangible" faith in the future, then it will find neither understanding nor respect from society.

So, the roundtable faces a great test. There are those who doubt that it will be a lasting success. We will see. We all need a little justified optimism and goodwill.

Jan Janowski: I draw optimism from the very fact that this broad group of people, who until now found themselves on opposing sides and continue to represent various views, managed to reach agreement about a basic matter. This makes me optimistic, namely, that we not only have to talk together about the most important problems facing the country, but that we must also act together, to talk and act together for the good of what constitutes the highest cause, Poland's future.

The principle that there will be no taboo subjects during the course of further talks, that everything can be discussed, has been upheld. I consider it very significant that one of the most important tasks for a roundtable meeting will be proposed changes in the system of government and participation by entirely new forces that have until now constituted an opposition, that this is connected with far-reaching constitutional changes, and that it has been agreed that the starting-point for everyone is the present legal order.

Everyone participating in the meeting realized that the communities they represent are not uniform, that differences of opinion exist. Opponents and supporters of the accord to which the roundtable should lead are found on both the side of the authorities and that of the opposition. This is an obstacle that will have to be overcome. Incidentally, I would like to point out that scheduling the talks for mid-October is not some kind of delay tactic, designed to put off important talks and solutions to the problems that have accumulated. Rather, it stems from

the fact that all the participants in the roundtable need time to hold consultations in their circles and to adopt a position on various options concerning future institutional solutions.

I came away from the meeting deeply convinced that all the participants genuinely want further talks to be truly constructive and to end in the success that society hopes for. This first meeting involving a wider circle of people was very concrete, divested of any demagogy, and represented a true discussion, and not, as has so often been the case in public life until now, the presentation of positions without any attempt to arrive at a consensus.

I personally think that the most important question in the package of issues that will be the subject of future discussion is that of changes in the system of government. If changes are introduced, if the word pluralism assumes concrete form, then it will be easier to solve other problems, including economic ones.

I would like to refer to something I said in the columns of ZYCIE WARSZAWY a few weeks ago. Speaking about the future form of accord, I said that a mistake we constantly made in the past was to insist that talks with the opposition be held outside the structures of power, that the opposition should not be admitted to these structures. This created a convenient situation for the opposition, but one that was dangerous for the authorities. I think that today we have taken a step toward changing this. That is why in my case reasonable optimism is beginning to outweigh my initial fears. I would not conceal the fact that I had a great many fears when I went to the meeting, including the fear that the memory of past events, bitterness, and bad experiences would weigh too heavily on the present and would constitute an insurmountable obstacle. However, that did not happen.

DP Spokesman Counters 'Imprecise Information'

LD2209221788 Warsaw PAP in English 2153 GMT 22 Sep 88

[Text] Warsaw, Sept. 22—According to a statement made by the press spokesman of the Democratic Party's (DP) Central Committee, Adam W. Wysocki, in some mass media there have appeared incorrect interpretations or imprecise information on the course and the documents adopted during the 16th DP CC Plenum.

In connection with this the spokesman has stressed that the Democratic Party has been and will remain in a tripartite coalition for it linked [as received] by joint, strategic goals, including concern for the interests of the Polish nation.

Wysocki stressed that the Democratic Party held the view that the coalition should be open to dialogue with other political forces functioning in various organizational formulas, including with the constructive opposition which currently remains out of parliament. From the positions contained in a report prepared by the DP CC in the theses for the pre-congress discussion the passing of a law on political parties, which would eliminate many doubts which have accumulated over the years, is being proposed.

"We think that the way out of the political crisis, which has appeared in connection with the first cabinet resignation in Poland's post war history—as has been stressed in the Democratic Party's Theses—is to be achieved by the strengthening of independence within the coalition and throughout its greater programmatic differentiation and not only by increasing the participation of non affiliated people in public life," Wysocki said.

New Ecological Party Calls for Dialogue

AU2209112388 Vienna DIE PRESSE in German 22 Sep 88 p 2

[Correspondent's dispatch: "New Green Party Calls For Participation in Dialogue"]

[Text] Krakow—"As Poland's youngest party, we want to be a force that struggles against the poisoning of air, water, and soil," states an appeal by the Polish Ecological Party, which was recently founded in Krakow. This party has just announced its participation in the "talks at the negotiating table." The authorities have not yet responded. Krakow is the district with the highest number of members of the Polish Ecological Club, which now also provides many members of the new party—a party that orients itself along the lines of the German Greens. After the latest local elections, the club is represented in many municipal councils.

Poll Reveals Knowledge of Katyn Massacre

PM2209140188 Szczecin GLOS SZCZECINSKI in Polish 6 Sep 88 p 3

[Report by INTERPRESS correspondent Andrzej Uznanski: "Katyn in Public Awareness: Some CBOS Findings"]

[Text] The Katyn crime was one of the most tragic events in the recent history of the Polish nation. The massacre of Polish officers who were prisoners of war remains one of those historical facts which continue to arouse the strongest feelings in Polish minds. Defenseless people were secretly executed by firing squads. Among them were not only professional officers, but also a high proportion of university professors, engineers, physicians, artists, and teachers, and other members of the intelligentsia called up for military service in September 1939.

The exposure of this crime resulted in many significant political consequences in the past. These included the USSR breaking off diplomatic relations with the Polish Government in London. After the war a large number of historical works, journalistic studies, and memoirs were published on the subject of Katyn. It ought to be pointed

out that the tragedy which took place in the Katyn wood has always been and still remains a regular subject for Western radio stations broadcasting in the Polish language. Many Polish communities in the West erected memorials and commemorative plaques in honor of the murdered Polish prisoners of war.

What is the Polish public's opinion of that event? Questions concerning the Katyn tragedy were twice posed to respondents answering CBOS [Public Opinion Survey Center] polls: First, in a study of the historical awareness of society today conducted among the adult population of Poland (November-December 1987) and, second, in a questionnaire circulated among young people: students in the final years of post-primary schools (April 1988). The authors of the survey declared: "We are not taking any definite stand on the historical background nor the actual course of that tragic episode of nearly 50 years ago. We simply want to establish what proportion of our respondents have come across some information on the subject of Katyn and who, in the Polish public's opinion, is to blame for that crime."

The results of the survey indicate that a definite majority of those questioned have heard about the Katyn massacre, adults slightly less often than the young people (81.6 percent and 85.9 percent respectively).

Respondents' level of education is very strongly linked with the degree of information they have on the Katyn massacre. Nearly all respondents with higher education have heard about it, as have more than 90 percent of those with secondary education. There was also evidence of the influence of the type of school attended on the respondents' information on Katyn: The proportion of students totally ignorant of the subject in question was found to be three times greater in the final years of vocational training schools, where almost every fourth person had never heard of Katyn, than among high school graduates.

Interest in politics appears to enhance the extent of knowledge about the Katyn crime. Among those who declare very high and high interest in politics, a greater proportion have heard a lot about the event and a smaller proportion have not heard about it at all.

Nearly half of those adult respondents who declare very high and high interest in history have heard a lot about the Katyn crime.

There is a clear correlation between the extent of respondents' information on the Katyn crime and their general knowledge of historical issues. The higher their competence in historical studies, the greater statistical probability that they have heard about the crime.

More adult respondents belonging to sociopolitical organizations (especially the PZPR) have heard about the Katyn crime than those who do not belong to them. However, a slightly higher number of secondary school students who belong to sociopolitical organizations are ignorant of the Katyn crime than their peers who are nonmembers.

A correlation was also found between political orientation and the extent of information known about the Katyn crime. This was the same for adults as for young people. A smaller proportion of adult respondents who declared a positive assessment of the political system in Poland ("The power system in Poland is good and requires no changes," or "It is principally a good system although certain changes would be beneficial") have heard much about Katyn compared with those who demonstrate a critical attitude. ("There is much wrong with the system of power in Poland, which requires major changes," or "It is a bad system and it would be beneficial to all if it were completely changed"). Conversely, a higher proportion of the former than the latter know nothing about it.

A smaller proportion of young people who believe that socialism in Poland has been, on balance, a good system ("The socialist system has brought only benefits to the Polish people, or brought us more benefits than losses") have heard much about Katyn than those who take an ambivalent attitude ("The system has brought us as many benefits as losses") and those who are critical of the system ("It brought us more losses than benefits, or only losses"). Conversely, a higher proportion of the former than the latter know nothing about it.

The question of who is responsible for the Katyn massacre was asked only of those respondents who have heard about it. The percentage of those who blame Stalin for the crime is highest among both adults and young people, with more young respondents than adults holding that view (68.4 percent and 49.5 percent respectively). Fewer adults favor the official view which asserts that Nazi Germany carries the blame for Katyn (6.5 percent) than the one which holds both Germany and the USSR jointly responsible (16 percent). Equal proportions of young people favor the official view (9.3 percent) and the view that both states carry the blame (9.4 percent). Fewer young people than adults have no opinion on the subject. It is also worth noting that nearly all respondents exclude the possibility that some other state than Germany and the Soviet Union might be suspected of perpetrating the crime. This is evident from the minute proportion of respondents pointing to some other possible perpetrator (1.4 percent of adults and 1 percent of the young people). Demographic and social distinctions affect the distribution of answers to the question about the perpetrators of the crime. The tendency to blame Stalin is found more often among respondents who are male, aged between 31 and 40, with higher education, nonparty members, interested in politics and history, and critical of the Polish political system.

In the young respondents group, this view was favored more often by high school graduates not belonging to any youth organizations, interested in politics, and critical of the socialist system.

Those who point to Germany as responsible for the Katyn massacre are mostly the oldest respondents (over 61 years of age), with primary education, PZPR members, declaring average or no interest in politics and history, and approving of the existing political system.

In the group of respondents comprising graduates of post-primary schools, Germany is most often blamed by graduates of vocational training schools not interested in politics and approving of the socialist system.

Our final conclusion is that no consensus has been found among the respondents as to who is responsible for the Katyn massacre.

In their final summation, the authors of the survey—a work which is highly significant for a number of reasons—reach the following conclusion: "The difference of opinion concerning the historical events of nearly 50 years ago attests to a marked absence of information that could be regarded as entirely credible by Polish public opinion." Let us amplify: Credible means well-documented. We are waiting to receive such information from historians and from members of the historical commission appointed by Polish and Soviet authorities. This ought to be done for the sake of historical truth and simple human justice, and for the good of present and future relations between Poland and the Soviet Union.

Syrian VP's Visit First of Such High Rank

Arrives, Met by Barcikowski

LD2009221888 Warsaw PAP in English
1808 GMT 20 Sep 88

[Text] Warsaw, Sept. 20—Vice President of the Syrian Arab Republic, vice chairman of the National Progressive Front (NPF) Zuhayr Mashariqah today arrived in Poland on an official visit. This is the first visit of such a high rank in the history of Polish-Syrian relations. Apart from the state and party meetings, the visit's agenda covers talks with the leadership of the Patriotic Movement for National Rebirth (PRON) and the signing of an agreement between the two organizations.

The guest was greeted at the Okecie Airport here by vice president of the Council of State, PUWP CC Political Bureau member Kazimierz Barcikowski and secretary general of the PRON National Council, PUWP CC Political Bureau alternate member Stanislaw Ciosek. Present was Syria's ambassador Ahmad Saqr.

The vice president of Syria accompanied by president of the Arab Socialist Party, member of the NPF leadership 'Abd al-Ghani Kannut and secretary general of the Arab Socialist Unionist Party [party name as received], NPF leadership member Fayiz 'Ismail, laid a wreath at the tomb of the unknown soldier.

Polish-Syrian plenary talks chaired by Kazimierz Barcikowski and Zuhayr Mashariqah were held in the afternoon. The parties discussed issues connected with the state of bilateral relations. Ideas were exchanged on the international situation and regional problems concerning both parties.

Mashariqah, Barcikowski on Ties

JN2109065088 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
0415 GMT 21 Sep 88

[Text] Warsaw—Muhammad Zuhayr Mashariqah, vice president and vice chairman of the National Progressive Front, met with Kazimiers Barcikowski, deputy chairman of the Polish Council of State, yesterday. During the meeting, Barcikowski praised bilateral relations and said: Poland, its leadership and people, deeply respects the role played by Syria under President Hafiz al-Asad's leadership both on the Arab and international levels, especially in the Middle East.

Dr Mashariqah spoke about the political, economic, and social achievements in Syria under President Hafiz al-Asad. He also spoke about Syria's firm and principled position on Arab and regional issues as well as its role in confronting the imperialist onslaughts and the Zionist entity's expansionist and aggressive policies.

Received by Czyrek

LD2209020188 Warsaw PAP in English
1627 GMT 21 Sep 88

[Text] Warsaw, Sept. 21—Syrian Vice-President and leader of the National Progressive Front NPF Zuhayr Mashariqah continues his official visit to Poland.

The Syrian guest met today with Political Bureau member and PUWP CC Secretary Jozef Czyrek. The two discussed issues of inter-party cooperation and the whole of Polish- Syrian relations. Many problems of the international situation were also examined.

Also today Zuhayr Mashariqah toured the royal castle in Warsaw, where he saw a documentary film about the post-war reconstruction of the Polish capital.

Meets Jaruzelski, Signs Accord

LD2209154288 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish
1400 GMT 22 Sep 88

[Text] Wojciech Jaruzelski has received in the Belweder Palace Syrian Vice President Zuhayr Mashariqah who is staying in Poland on an official visit. Roman Malinowski also met Vice President Mashariqah and acquainted the guest with the structure and reforming actions of the Sejm.

Taduesz Witold Mlynczak also met the vice president and acquainted him with a report on the activity of the Democratic Party in the process of reform of socioeconomic life.

Zuhayr Mashariqah and Jan Dobraczynski signed an agreement in Warsaw on cooperation between the PRON National Council and the central leadership of the Progressive National Front of Syria. The document provides for the participation of both movements in the propagation of information on political, and sociocultural life in Poland and Syria.

Jaruzelski, Mashariqah Make Remarks

JN2309065088 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 23 Sep 88

[Text] Warsaw—Comrade Wojciech Jaruzelski, first secretary of the Polish United Workers Party and chairman of the Council of State, received Dr Muhammad Zuhayr Mashariqah, vice president and vice chairman of the National Progressive Front, at noon yesterday.

At the onset of the meeting, Comrade Jaruzelski said that the Polish command and people greatly respect Syria's role and the militant and progressive role President Hafiz al-Asad personally assumes. He said that Syria stands in the forefront of the Arab countries that confront imperialism and represents a real progressive force. Jaruzelski added that the Polish people highly value the relations that exist between the two friendly people and are eager to develop them on all levels.

Comrade Jaruzelski denounced Israel's policy of aggression and expansion and its repressive measures against the Palestinian Arab people. He voiced his support for the Palestinian people's inalienable rights to repatriation, self-determination, and the establishment of an independent state.

Comrade Mashariqah spoke during the meeting, conveying President Hafiz al-Asad's greetings to Comrade Jaruzelski as well as his best wishes for him and for the friendly Polish people. He expressed appreciation for the relations of friendship and cooperation between the two friendly countries and highly valued Poland's support for the Arab nation's causes, the Palestinian cause in particular. He said: We in Syria aspire to promote these relations to more advanced levels.

On the Zionist enemy's policy of aggression, Comrade Mashariqah said that Israel is a factor of tension not only in our region but also worldwide in view of its participation in the Star Wars program the United States is carrying out.

At the end of the meeting, Comrade Jaruzelski asked Comrade Mashariqah to convey his heartfelt greetings to His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad and the friendly Syrian Arab people.

Number of Villages in Resettlement Program Reduced
AU2209181488 Paris AFP in English 1758 GMT 22 Sep 88

[Excerpt] Bucharest, Sept 22 (AFP)—Revealing new details of a controversial resettlement program, a senior official said Thursday that 7,500 of Romania's 13,000 or so villages would remain untouched while the rest would be allowed to gradually "disappear" rather than be destroyed.

Previous reports that 7,000 villages were slated for destruction by 1995 brought bitter criticism from Hungary which claims the scheme is aimed at forcing ethnic Hungarians in the Romanian region of Transylvania to assimilate.

Romeo Dragomirescu, coordinator of the program, told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE 7,500 "economically viable" villages—and 2,300 of the country's 2,705 communities—have been "selected" for modernisation.

However, the number of villages to be preserved has not been "fixed once and for all" and could rise as a function of "new economic data ", he said.

Meanwhile the government did "not want to create irreversible situations" in small villages and would not isolate them "from the country's general socio-economic activity".

He denied that residents of such villages would be forced to leave and said "the modernization plan" provided for "all measures needed to preserve cultural, ethnic, historic and religious monuments". [passage omitted]

Ceausescu Receives Szuros-led MSZMP Delegation
AU2209185988 Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1831 GMT 22 Sep 88

[Text] Bucharest, AGERPRES, 21/9/1988—Thursday, 22 September, RCP General Secretary Nicolae Ceausescu, president of Romania, received Matyas Szuros, secretary of the Central Committee of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party (HSWP), who accompanied by a HSWP delegation visited Romania at the invitation of the CC of the RCP.

On the occasion the head of the Hungarian delegation conveyed President Nicolae Ceausescu a salute and best wishes on behalf of HSWP General Secretary Karoly Grosz, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Hungarian People's Republic. At the same time a salute was conveyed to the Central Committee of the RCP, on behalf of the CC of the HSWP.

At thanking President Nicolae Ceausescu conveyed to Comrade Karoly Grosz a salute and best wishes. At the same time, the general secretary of the Romanian Communist Party addressed the HSWP Central Committee a salute on behalf of the CC of the RCP.

During the interview the sides discussed ways to implement the understandings agreed upon during the Arad summit of the general secretaries of the two parties, with a view to further developing the relations between the Romanian Communist Party and the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party, between the Socialist Republic of Romania and the Hungarian People's Republic, between the people of the two countries.

President Nicolae Ceausescu stressed that the Romanian Communist Party will work, in future too, for the promotion of the Romanian-Hungarian collaboration on multiple planes, this being to the benefit and in the advantage of both peoples, of the socialist construction in the two countries, of the general cause of socialism and peace.

Also approached were some current problems of the international political life.

Attending were the delegation of the Romanian Communist Party and the delegation of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party as well as the two countries' Bucharest and Budapest ambassadors.

Nigeria's Augustus Aikhomu Continues Stay

Tours Economic Establishments
AU2209193888 Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1836 GMT 22 Sep 88

[Text] Bucharest, AGERPRES, 22/09/1988—Thursday, 22 September, Vice-Admiral Augustus Aikhomu, prime minister [as received], chief of the General Staff of the Armed Forces of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, and the officials accompanying him visited the Petrochemical Combine of Brazi. The guests were presented the organization and progress of production and labour and a number of petrochemical products made there, as well as highly complex developed installations and equipment.

The same day, the Nigerian guest visited the National Centre of Aeronautics, the complex development of the Dimbovita River, the subway, the future Boulevard Victoria Socialismului, as well as other social units and utilities which illustrate the amplitude of the modernization and embellishing work done in the Romanian capital city.

Received by Ceausescu

AU2209193988 Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1840 GMT 22 Sep 88

[Text] Bucharest, AGERPRES, 22/09/1988—Nicolae Ceausescu, president of th Socialist Republic of Romania, received Vice-Admiral Augustus Aikhomu, prime minister [as received], chief of staff of the Armed Forces of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, now on an official visit in Romania.

The interview was attended by Constantin Dascalescu, prime minister of Romania.

President Nicolae Ceausescu was conveyed on the occasion a warm salute from Major-General Ibrahim Badamasi Babangida, president of the Republic, supreme commander of the Armed Forces of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, and wishes of progress and welfare for the Romanian people.

The Nigerian premier stressed the high appreciation enjoyed in the Federal Republic of Nigeria by the activity deployed by President Nicolae Ceausescu for Romania's continuous thriving, for the establishment of a climate of detente, security, peace and understanding in the world.

President Nicolae Ceausescu thanked and conveyed in turn to the Nigerian head of state a friendly salute and to the Nigerian people best wishes of progress and prosperity.

During the interview that proceeded in an atmosphere of warm friendship, emphasis was placed on the importance of the understandings reached at top level for the steady development of the relations of collaboration between the two countries and peoples. Emphasized were also the broad possibilities at hand for the strengthening and expansion of the bilateral collaboration, on multiple planes, especially of the economic, technological and scientific cooperation, as well as for the growth and diversification of the commercial exchanges, based on long term accords that should give them prospects and stability.

During the talk they also approached current aspects of the world political life. Special attention was paid to the problems referring to disarmament, nuclear above all, the elimination of force and threat of force from international life, the peaceful settlement of inter-state conflicts. In connection with the grave economic situation in the world, that affects especially the developing countries, they insisted on the need to eradicate the underdevelopment and build a new international economic order, relying upon full equality and equity.

President Nicolae Ceausescu reiterated Romania's support to and solidarity with the struggle of the peoples in Africa for the removal of any form of domination and oppression, of the racist policy and apartheid, for the defence and consolidation of national independence, for self-dependent economic and social development of every state.

Paunescu Meets Iranian Heavy Industry Minister

AU2209201288 Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1950 GMT 22 Sep 88

[Text] Tehran, AGERPRES, 22/09/1988—Radu Paunescu, Romanian minister of machine building, now in Tehran on the occasion of the International Fair in the Iranian capital city, conducted talks with Behzad Nabavi, minister of heavy industry of that country, in connection with the Romanian-Iranian economic relations.

Interference in Home Affairs 'Rejected'

AU2209181888 Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1738 GMT 22 Sep 88

["To Observe the New Principles of International Relations—a Practical and Permanent Prerequisite"—AGERPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest, AGERPRES, 22/09/1988—For the Romanian Communist Party, for Romania the development of interstate relations on the basis of the principles of national independence, fully equal rights, non-interference in domestic affairs and mutual advantage is a prerequisite of the present-day world, SCINTEIA writes in a commentary with the above headline showing inter alia: to observe independence, sovereignty, non-interference, equality means to observe every people's right to freely decide on its development path, to freely and sovereignly decide on its own problems, to solve them as it wishes, in consensus with the conditions in its own country, with its needs and aspirations. The content of the new principles of relations—the essence of independence, the rights inherent to national sovereignty, the obligations devolving by virtue of the demand of non-interference in domestic affairs—have been clearly specified through joint efforts—to which Romania made an important contribution—in various international documents, the Helsinki Final Act included.

That is why the statements of official representatives of states who, using the rostrum of international forums, want to discuss again already unanimously accepted principles, revive obsolete theories disapproved of in their time and categorically and unanimously condemned today are nothing but astonishing. An attempt is thus made to accredit the idea that the notion of sovereignty and non-interference acquires a new meaning so to say, that some problems "cannot be regarded as one country's internal affairs—all under the pretext of a 'growing interstate dependence'".

Which are the problems that—according to some—the "new meaning" of sovereignty no longer cover? They are aspects related precisely to its essence, to its content as

laid down in the Helsinki final act: internal organization, the ways and means of solving socioeconomic growth problems. One can easily see that the authors of like conceptions actually revive ideas of the "theory of limited sovereignty" which had so many negative consequences that nobody should forget. It is more than obvious that such a truncated "sovereignty" void of its essential attributes would give green light to interference in the internal affairs of states. Sovereignty can be but full, intact—and this necessarily presupposes the exclusion of any form of interference, no matter its theoretical approach. The attempt at creating confusion regarding "the interdependence of states" should be rejected. It is clear for anybody that this—real—interdependence means cooperation among states, participation in the international division of labour, complementarity of national economies etc.—but all this among independent and sovereign states.

In Romania's conception the new principles of relations make up a unitary whole and are in an organic relationship. They cannot be conceived fragmentarily, isolatedly and even less as opposed to one another. One does not need extensive analyses or historic surveys to prove that the violation or disregard of one of the principles mean implicitly the violation of the others. The new principles express their value only if and to the extent to which they are observed integrally, each one separately and as a whole.

Romania stressed and stresses that the sphere of action of the new principles is universal, that it can in no way be limited only to the relations among states with different social systems. In this respect an important role in the promotion of the new principles devolves on the socialist countries, which, given the nature of the system they are building, are called upon to set a model of profoundly democratic links set on the strictest observance of these principles with the power of example for all the states and peoples of the world. The example should be set precisely by consistency and firmness in promoting the new principles, by full concordance between words and deeds, between the enunciation of the sanctioned norms on the one hand and the practice of mutual ties on the other.

The Romanian Communist Party consistently starts from the reality that socialism is built in conditions that differ from country to country and that, by virtue of the new principles, each party, each people has the right and duty to independently and sovereignly choose the ways of building the new system, creatively applying the objective laws and the principles of socialism to its own country. Experience, life itself have most categorically proved that there are no generally valid recipes or patterns in socialist construction, nobody having the right to give lessons on the way of solving one question or another. Each party is responsible to its own people for its actions.

That is why the assertions of the new "meaning" of sovereignty under the current circumstances run counter to the new principles of relations, to every people's sovereign right to decide on the problems concerning its existence, its own development. As far as interstate relations are concerned, Romania considers as inadmissible any tendency of interference in domestic affairs, no matter their form or pretext—be they arbitrary economic actions, pressure of any kind, or statements by those who instead of concerning themselves with their—not few—own problems, assume the right of giving solutions of internal organization. Such practices, tributary to the old way of thinking, set forth in official statements, interviews, articles in the press can but harm confidence, undermine understanding and the development of fine ties among states—and that is why they should be rejected most firmly.

Socialist Romania's firm support to the lasting assertion of the new principles is set on the belief that their generalization and strict observance by all states are a prerequisite for the establishment of an atmosphere of mutual confidence and respect among free, equal states this being the very essence of peaceful coexistence.

Kosovo Assembly Adopts Constitutional Changes

LD2209180888 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1720 GMT 22 Sep 88

[Text] Pristina, September 22 (TANJUG)—The assembly of Yugoslavia's Autonomous Province of Kosovo adopted draft changes to its constitution today. The Assembly approved 34 ammendments which will change a third of the Constitution.

Kosovo's population will voice their opinions on the adopted drafts during a public debate.

The drafts specify the province's relations to federal laws and laws of the Republic of Serbia, which should lift legal obstacles to Serbia's full jurisdiction over Kosovo which is its constituent part.

The amendments will bring changes to the socio-economic system and create conditions for more efficient activities of bodies and institutions charged with securing constitutionality, legality, the rights and freedoms of the nations and nationalities.

The assembly expressed the conviction that the proposed changes in Kosovo's Constitution will secure full equality for all nations and nationalities in the province.

The assembly rejected interpretations that the constitutional changes will endanger the provinces' population in regard to language and education.

Although some remarks were voiced on assembly, President Jokanovic's opening address, especially by Albanian delegates, the assembly adopted the opening address. [sentence as received]

The discussion left the agenda at one moment because of different assessments on protest gatherings by Kosovo Serbs and Montenegrins over pressure from Albanian chauvinists and separatists.

Almost all ethnic Albanian Assembly deputies condemned the gatherings and the attacks on the Kosovo leadership which have become increasingly frequent.

Serbs Expect Dismissal of Kosovo Leaders

LD2209205988 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1846 GMT 22 Sep 88

[Text] Belgrade, Sept 22 (TANJUG)—The leadership of Serbia expects the next meeting of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia Central Committee (LCY CC) to adopt a decision on dismissing those members of the Central Committee and leadership of the Kosovo Province mostly responsible for the non-implementation of party decisions on measures aimed at putting an end to the drama of the Kosovo Serbs and Montenegrins, assembly of Serbia President Borisav Jovic said in Belgrade today.

Since the outbreak of the counter-revolutionary demonstrations in Pristina in 1981 to date, over 30,000 Serbs and Montenegrins have migrated from Kosovo under Albanian chauvinist and separatist pressure, without the federal party and state leadership being able to halt the exodus.

Jovic today also critisized the leadership of the Autonomus Province of Vojvodina for opposing the changes in the Serbian constitution under which the republic would ensure wide state ingerence over its entire territory, including both of its Provinces of Vojvodina and Kosovo. At present, the provinces have practically all the attributes of a state and are only formally part of Serbia.

Slovene LC Body on Counterrevolution Stance

AU2209182988 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 20 Sep 88 p 3

[J. P. report: "What Was Meant by 'Reassessing' the Counterrevolution in Kosovo"]

[Text] Ljubljana, 19 Sep—As a result of the different interpretations of the debate held at the session of the LC Central Committee of Slovenia on 12 September, we have received the following report from the Information Center of the LC Central Committee of Slovenia:

At its session on 12 September, the LC Central Committee Presidium of Slovenia discussed Kosovo in conformity with the conclusions of the 16th LCY Central Committee session. The question was asked during the debate on whether assessments of the situation in this province of ours are adequate and whether the means which are being used on the basis of these assessments and which have not been particularly efficient to date are adequate. The opinion prevailed that sticking to the assessment that what is involved are only counterrevolutionary activities fails to express the entire complexity and contradictory nature of the Kosovo situation which has reached a dramatic culmination of troubled relations among people and nations.

The explanation of the Information Center of the LC Central Committee of Slovenia stresses that in no way was the debate contrary to the LCY Central Committee Presidium's evaluation of the counterrrevolutonary contents and the aims of the demands for a republic in Kosovo. However, this debate instead pointed to the scope of the situation there and to the need for the social activity of mostly using repressive state measures which should guarantee civilized values, respect for the law and constitution, and the protection of people and property, to include the intensive political activity of all progressive socialist forces. This activity must create conditions not only for a safe life for Serbs and Montenegrins and prevent their emigration under duress, but also strengthen the awareness of the Albanians who live in Kosovo that they are part of the SFRY and that they,

being a majority people in the province, are responsible for protecting Serbs, Montenegrins, and members of other nationalities from violence.

Solidarity Meetings Support Serbian Efforts

60,000 Protest in Kraljevo

AU2209145288 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1300 GMT 22 Sep 88

[Text] A large solidarity meeting began in Kraljevo at 1500. Marko Markovic has the details:

According to first assessments, more than 60,000 people are attending this meeting. These are inhabitants of Kraljevo, the workers class of this town, young people, and numerous guests from various places in Serbia. Several hundred Serbs and Montenegrins from Kosovo arrived who were received as the most welcome guests. The hosts gave them the traditional bread and salt.

The joint message from this meeting is that the genocide of Serbs and Montenegrins in Kosovo will be stopped once and for all.

The biggest banner was put up above the Memorial Park at (?Grbicka) Kosa and had Tito's well-known message written on it in red letters: Let us preserve brotherhood and unity, like the apple of our eye.

Kraljevo Meeting Ends

LD2209172888 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1653 GMT 22 Sep 88

[Text] Kraljevo, 22 Sep (TANJUG)—The meeting in Kraljevo, at which about 100,000 people gathered, among whom were more than 2,000 Serbs and Montenegrins from Kosovo, ended after 1 hour in good order and without incident.

Speeches were made by Rade Milicevic, president of the Kraljevo SAWP Municipal Committee; Milica Bojanic, an educational worker, on behalf of the Serbs and Montenegrins from Kosovo; Voja Radunovic, president of the Trade Union conference of the rolling stock factory, on behalf of Kraljevo workers; and People's Hero Milan Antoncic-Velbit on behalf of the region's veterans.

30,000 Meet in Paracin

AU2209153588 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1300 GMT 22 Sep 88

[Report from Radio Svetozarevo]

[Text] A solidarity meeting has been held in Paracin. Here is a report from Andjelka Marisavljevic from Radio Svetozarevo:

More than 30,000 people gathered today in Paracin for a solidarity meeting, or as it was called in this commune, a meeting in support of the strengthening of brotherhood and unity of Yugoslav peoples and nationalities in the struggle against Albanian nationalism and separatism.

The meeting was attended by more than 100 Serbs and Montenegrins from Kosovo. Inhabitants from the surrounding area and the neighboring Cuprija came to the meeting with the citizens of Paracin.

One can see from these people's rallies that the situation is serious and dangerous, said Petar Djuza, painter and journalist for Pristina JEDINSTVO, at today's meeting. In their desperation, the people have resorted to self-organization. They do not allow us to have the right to scream and wail. In the North, they have been holding meetings in support of betrayers of military secrets, but we are being answered with demands to examine the assessments of the counterrevolution. They do not want to see or understand that virtually everything in Kosovo and Metohija is endangered only because it is marked by the national essence of Serbs and Montenegrins and also of Croats, Romanies, Muslims, and those Albanians who are not inclined toward the separatist strategy, stressed Petar Djuza on behalf of the Kosovo delegation.

Dragoslav Antic, president of the SAWP Communal Conference, spoke first of all on behalf of the hosts and stressed that the solidarity meeting was organized at the express demand of the citizens and working people of Paracin.

On behalf of young people, Vladimir Jankovic, the youngest president of a communal youth organization in Serbia, then expressed his disagreement with the existing situation and the belief in the effectiveness of the proposed constitutional changes.

Milos Bebic, president of the Communal Committee of the Trade Union Federation, spoke on behalf of the working people of Paracin and Djuro Djukic, a veteran of 1941, spoke on behalf of the veterans.

The solidarity meeting in Paracin took place in a dignified way without any hint of nationalism and especially not Serbian nationalism. This could also be seen in the banners which were carried and which called for unity not only in Serbia but also in Yugoslavia.

In a little under 1 hour, a meeting of solidarity with the disenfranchized Serbs and Montenegrins in Kosovo will begin in neighboring Svetozarevo.

Central Committee Action Urged

LD2209180588 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1732 GMT 22 Sep 88

[Summary] Svetozarevo, 22 Sep (TANJUG)—Several tens of thousands of people from the Svetozarevo area attended a protest meeting in Svetozarevo today to

express their disapproval of the situation in Kosovo. At the meeting Albanian irredentism was censured and demands were made for greater unity in Serbia and Yugoslavia. Those responsible for the present situation should be brought to book at the next 17th LCY Central Committee session, it was said.

Students Protest in Pristina

LD2209170188 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1553 GMT 22 Sep 88

[Text] Pristina, 22 Sep (TANJUG)—Almost all schoolchildren attending classes in Serbo-Croat from Pristina secondary schools today left their school classrooms and in an organized way went out onto the streets of Pristina. On the way they most frequently shouted slogans "We shouldn't be at school," "Kosovo is Serbia," and individuals also sung the song about "Duke Sindjelic" [hero in the first Serbian uprising at the beginning of the 19th century].

About 2,000 of them gathered at 1100 hours in front of the yard of the Boro i Ramiz student hall of residence.

The schoolchildren were addresed first of all by Zoran Stijovic, president of the Pristina Socialist Youth Federation, and also by Zivojin Mitrovic, secretary of the Presidium of the Pristina LC municipal committee, who appealed for there to be a common solution to the problems and begged the schoolchildren to return to school. This appeal was repeated by Branko Paunovic, the director of the Economics School, but the pupils did not respond to it.

There were then speeches by Srdjan Krtinic, Misa Jankovic, Zoran Zivic, and Radica Jovanovic, who said that the basic reason why they had stopped attending school was fear and lack of security, because of attacks by Albanian nationalists and separatists. Their unanimous demand was to attend classes without being molested and to be free and safe at school just like their fellow schoolchildren outside Kosovo. Srdjan Krtinic added further that at the Medical School they invited students of Albanian nationality to join them, but not only did they refuse to do so but, he said, they spat at him, threatened him, and swore at him. Objections were also voiced at the behavior of individual teachers who, they claim, locked their doors, not permitting them to leave the school. Criticism was also directed at Joze Smole, president of the Slovene SAWP Republican Conference, because of his stance on the problems in Kosovo.

After an agreement to have a rally again tomorrow in the same place, the schoolchildren peacefully dispersed to their homes.

Bosnian SAWP Body Views Kosovo Situation

AU2209141788 Belgarade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 17-18 Sep 88 p 6

[Maristela Lucic report on the extraordinary session of the SAWP Republican Conference of Bosnia-Hercegovina: "Kosovo: A Common Mirror"]

[Text] Sarajevo, 16 Sep—People are worried about the situation in Kosovo, the activity of Albanians nationalists and separatists is harshly condemned, and people are demanding that the Kosovo drama be solved, but also that the truth be told about the real situation in the province. This is what participants in the debate at today's extraordinary session of the SAWP Republican Conference of Bosnia-Hercegovina on Kosovo said most frequently. If the stances on Kosovo have not been implemented—and that is the general assessment—then one must say who is not implementing them. For neither the activity of Albanian nationalists has been prevented nor has the emigration of Serbian and Montenegrin peoples been slowed down.

Ljubo Ninkovic, secretary of the SAWP Republican Conference Presidium of Bosnia-Hercegovina, who submitted the introductory speech, among other things presented the assessment that this republic has expressed support for the stances of republican bodies that problems in Kosovo cannot be solved through meetings. Moreover, rallies held to date and the activity of the Committee for the Organization of Solidarity Meetings Outside Kosovo have not only failed to contribute to the stabilization of the situation in the province, but have caused great political damage which can be fatal for the whole of the country.

The Kosovo drama is the most brutal aspect of the moral, economic, and political crisis in which this society got itself, Dragan Kalinic said. For 8 years, they have been keeping us without a specific answer to the question of who has been heading the counterrevolution in Kosovo. Where are these key people and why have they not been arrested? The state of emergency is first imposed and then lifted. After that, the situation is even worse. They send the combined unit, but decide only now to deploy these people in the hotbeds, Kalinic explained.

Veljko Droca pointed out that Kosovo leaders who are Albanian nationals are insufficiently energetic and open in denouncing nationalist excesses, rapes, demolition of monuments, theft, and robbery. Nada Balaban said that the Kosovo leadership insists on banal and unimportant things and consistently remains on the defensive, instead of calling on honest Albanians to join the joint struggle against irredentists. Much more is expected from the provincial leadership, because it certainly should play the key role in solving this problem, Nada Balaban added.

Borko Vukobrat said that "since the first days one learned about the counterrevolution, since the moment when Stane Dolanc deceived our public and the world public, we have been receiving more or less divergent information."

"Kosovo is not a Yugoslav problem only because of the counterrevolution there that has been endangering our country's state integrity for almost 8 years. It has been endangering the basic rights, freedoms, and human dignity of Serbs, Montenegrins, and other members of non-Albanian nationalities and that shows most convincingly to what extent our community has weakened, what has been done to it by centripetal forces pulling toward national bureaucracies supporting statism," Rade Galeb said. He added that it is obvious that the failure to solve the Kosovo situation resulted from the crisis in Yugoslavia, but that Kosovo also has a reciprocal effect and contributes considerably to aggravating and deepening the crisis.

Among other things Rade Galeb said what confusion is spread by groups of journalists who come to Kosovo expecting to see tanks in the streets and rapes and other forms of violence and, since they fail to see these things with their own eyes, it means that nothing like that exists.

Mirko Ostojic agreed with Galeb's speech. Among other things, he said that, apart from the six states we have, statism has created two new ones. It is in vain that the Vojvodina leaders are trying to explain in their speeches that it is not true that they want a state. One can, however, conclude as much from their entire behavior and demands. After all, it can be seen in the debate on constitutional amendments, in which they do not want to make concessions. They want foreign policy, they want the army, security, and courts. What has been happening in Vojvodina, Ostojic said, represents a great political defeat of the Vojvodina leadership, defeat of an autonomist blindness, of an autonomist dogmatism. It turned out that people do not want the kind of autonomy they want. People want autonomy as an element of the whole of the self-managing system and not another state. In the case of Kosovo, statists have long been making concessions to Albanian nationalists. They used to be shiptars [derogatory name for Albanian nationals living in Kosovo] and then, being under that influence, we told them "No, you are Albanians." They had a language which is a variant of Albanian and then we, who are experts on all possible variants of Serbo-Croatian and any other language, told them "No this is one Albanian language." In this way those concessions in various aspects have continued until this very day, Ostojic explained.

The session is under way.

[Following three passages appear boxed within the body of the item]

Prince Lazar and the Letter [subhead]

The most drastic example of how Serbian nationalists do ill service to their people, elicit suspicion, and create this anti-Serb mood against which we have to fight energetically is the abuse of Prince Lazar's remains, [Prince Lazar Hrebeljanovic, 1329-1389, led Serbian army against the Turks in the Battle of Kosovo in 1389] which have been transferred to the territory of Bosnia-Hercegovina. I would like to say here that I want to pay due tribute to Prince Lazar as well as to the Serbian Othodox Church, one of the protectors of Serbian People's tradition. It seems, however, that a letter has been travelling together with Prince Lazar's remains, a letter with contents that are far from evangelical. Reading other people's letters and touching upon sacred things means poor manners, and I hope that I am not doing so now. I am guided by this letter which was published in a very large number of copies and has unfortunately not been denied to date. One cannot exclude the possibility that this is a fraud, a nationaiist fraud from the other side. I would therefore like to see and hear the letter being denied or to see or hear an explanation.—Miro Jancic

Insinuations [subhead]

One ought to touch upon the insinuations about the alleged repression of the state security organs against the people who had said they wanted to go to the meeting in Jajce. It is simply unbelievable that certain media should "inform" the public that these citizens are being interrogated, brought to police stations to give statements, that they are threatened, and the like. According to what we have learned, the internal organs were primarily working on discovering and preventing people when there were reasons to believe that they were preparing explosive and similar dangerous devices for the meeting. The internal organs tried in this way to protect citizens from the possible grave consequences.— Ljubo Ninkovic

A Shocking Show [subhead]

People want leaders who would represent Yugoslavia and protect the joint interest of all its peoples and nationalities. We have had enough of show sessions and shock sessions carried by television, of all that hamming, in which not common Yugoslav, but allegedly republican and narrower interests in fact mostly boil down to personal interests. Individuals have become so immune to meetings and to their names being mentioned that they would probably return to their posts even after the people grabbed them by the collar and threw them out.

Slovenia's Kucan Views Protest Meetings

AU2209180188 Ljubljana DELO in Slovene 19 Sep 88 p 2

[From "They Said So" column: Excerpts from speech by Milan Kucan, president of the Presidium of the Central Committee of the LC of Slovenia, at a meeting at Trska Gora near Novo Mesto, Slovenia, on 17 September]

[Text] Milan Kucan, president of the Presidium of the Central Committee of the LC of Slovenia spoke, at a

meeting of former youth labor brigades members on the 30th anniversary of the construction of the Ljubljana-Zagreb highway:

Many things are now different from what they were then. The rising tide of national, social, and political passions threatens that we may get lost somewhere on the margins of Europe and that the desired image of socialism to suit man will vanish. In the increasing economic, human, and political uncertainty, not only is the feeling of being endangered getting stronger, but the question is being very distinctly posed whether we have any prospects, socialist prospects, for a way out of the crisis and for development. Under the circumstances when, on the one side, people express their dissatisfaction with their present position in protests on an increasingly massive scale, and on the other side, the social forces including the LC, and particularly the LC, exert an insufficient or even wrong influence, the demand for clearer, more resolute words and deeds is understandable. With the present social tension, it is not difficult to recognize a general discussion about the main questions of vital interest to Yugoslavia and about the image of socialism, the national question and the purpose of living together. The answers, which were not completely exhaustive, but were sufficiently clear and applicable to all these questions, were offered by the LCY Conference with its so-called policy of the three reforms. On the basis of these answers, it has been possible to launch a drive that leads to a quicker comprehensive development and a creative self-managing and democratic reintegration of Yugoslavia free of nationalistic, unitarian, and separatist prejudices. This policy which formulated an attractive variation of socialism, comprehensible to a majority of our peoples, and which stated the values that mean a continuity, and where discontinuity lies with the present development and stagnation, contained sufficient power to mobilize and create. What has happened so that the activities in realizing it have stopped and that they are vanishing and sinking into oblivion?

It is obvious that the socialist forces have not fully succeeded in avoiding the snare of the general obsession with a national state and state sovereignty, which greatly exceeds the necessary affirmation of national self-awareness. The socialist forces have neglected the need for affirming and developing a free, creative, self-managing position of man as a personality and for strengthening his social security and human integrity, his democratic freedoms and rights, and his material and spiritual prospects, as if the guarantee for the implementation of these reforms were the state, or rather the national state, and not the people with their creativity and the democratic self-managing pressure of their interests. We are concerned more with how to link and ensure the cooperation of offices and forums than with how to make people and ideas draw closer together. Is this the reason that the rallying of the reform forces has weakened?

To reconcile with such a situation would mean to say farewell to dreams about a developed, democratic, rich socialism. Therefore, the direction and the aim of political actions are clear: to take the initiative; to gain legitimacy and the confidence of the people; and to attract people—to attract them with specific deeds which will show the principles, the seriousness, and the determination of our actions. This means that we should persist with the reform policy on the formulation of both strategic and practical political, economic, social, and other questions, and mainly emphasize development, the quality of economic activities, and changes in the economic structure and development. It means to persist with democratic ways and means in implementing the reform. The first tests are here: the constitutional amendments and the economic system reform.

As difficult as it may be, it is necessary and urgent that we persevere. To give in to the temptation of the increasingly loud thinking and offering of tested means of salvation through all kinds of repression, all the way to those that end in a state of emergency and accompanying measures, means to irreparably compromise the idea of socialism. Intranational tensions and social crises have always only been made deeper through ideological and political disagreements. Such problems cannot be solved by force, in a make-or -break way. This applies to emergency measures, starting with extraordinary meetings and congresses, which are often an excuse for not responsibly using the powers and means that are available precisely to prevent the circumstances in which extraordinary measures are used, or for imposing discipline in the name of democratic centralism. The social and political scope, within which the LC performs its actions, is limited by the decision to follow the democratic road. It is obvious that if the LC had to abandon this democratic road, it would lose its historic opportunity and possibility to influence the future.

Of course, intentions are not enough. Responsibility is exceedingly great at the various solidarity and protest meetings and in various self-appointed committees and legitimate organs from Slovenia to Macedonia. When the darkest human and national passions are being pushed forward and inflamed at these rallies, when socialist federal Yugoslavia is being forcibly reshaped and the Constitution changed, when calls to arms are made and people are incited against other peoples, when persons are accused without evidence simply because they think differently and not because one actually wants to find out how guilty they are, then even the majority who attend these rallies in their firm belief that the rallies contribute to the solving of the human, social, and national drama and are an expression of solidarity with the suffering of their fellow nationals, cannot expect much understanding and support. Instead of alliance and solidarity, the repetition of this kind of rally causes fear and resistance especially if they are imposed on communities that do not want them. Differentiation is more than necessary in this respect. Nationalist expansionism that divides and endangers peoples, and that carries a nationalistic charge dangerous for the stability and existence of a multinational democratic community,

is neither rational nor democratic. Those who call people to arms and other violence should think about what remains when the gunpowder smoke and smell are gone. Tragic experiences exist in this respect, both in our country and in the world. Responsibility is shown in a publicly displayed awareness that this is not a substitute for nonexisting social and development ideas that would give to an individual and to the people more freedom and equality in their work and creativity, more material and spiritual well-being, more democracy in public and political life, in brief, more socialism. It is only with drafting a new image of socialism, with a program of comprehensive social transformation, that a new integration of Yugoslavia is possible: economic, social, self-managing, on the basis of a modern socialist social development concept, ambitiously updated with the modern world and with the technological, scientific, civilizational, and integration processes marking this world. This will expand the field of equality of persons and peoples. It will strengthen democratic values and tradition as an organic necessity of development, and will not extort some of its elements through pressure, ultimatums, threats, criminal proceedings, spiritual and physical violence, and even through emergency measures, which are but a farce of democracy and a manipulation of the people.

With the social uncertainty, almost everybody is concerned about the present aggravation of intranational relations in Yugoslavia and in Slovenia. Goodwill and the good intentions of the majority unfortunately are not a sufficient guarantee for the preservation of a situation that is still rather calm; quite small and apparently insignificant excessive events may obtain a universal significance in this atmosphere of uncertainty and manipulation of the masses, and may open the floodgates of passion. No state coercion of any kind, no army, and no police can bring national rights and good relations among people, regardless of their nationality. Coercion can only help to guard the basic rights and freedoms when they are endangered. Perhaps it is too late for a mere application of goodwill, for passions have been kindled in many places, including ours. The democratic order is therefore particularly necessary, so that national passions may be pushed to the margin of social events, that civil freedoms may be assured to everybody, and that everybody should be requested to respect equal rights of others and the institutions of self-managing democracy. In a democratic order, the state and the party cannot ensure the rights, including national rights, simply with the force of its apparatus of power and its behavior. On the contrary, such activities are quite ineffective even in intranational relations. Let it be known: We Communists are not a force of authority and we do not want to become that, but we will strive for a firm democratic order everywhere in solving all the questions, including those between the peoples and nationalities and we will be prepared to cooperate on an equal footing with all the democratic forces without any sectarianism. We will also set our strength and prestige against those who in destroying the democratic order offer the bluff of a speedy solution of all the questions in a way which would introduce a coercive order, either in the name of a majority or a minority, over the broken backs of others.

Daily Condemns Some Banners at Niksic Meeting

AU2209121288 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 20 Sep 88 p 2

[S. Curuvija report: "Why Are Organizers Keeping Silent?"]

[Text] Last Sunday, at the meeting of Kosovo Serbs and Montenegrins in Niksic, there were 50,000 people who gathered, as Rajko Andjelic, president of the Communal Conference of the Niksic SAWP, said, to "contribute to the urgent and energetic breaking of the counterrevolution and to resolving the position of Serbs, Montenegrins, and other peoples in Kosovo." As in some other cases, the masses justifiably demanded changes, called the responsible people to account and for "an end to the Kosovo drama," and carried banners expressing the built up and supressed dissatisfaction Nobody who realistically assesses our situation today should doubt this dissatisfaction.

Some epic and highly emotional banners—especially what was perhaps the nicest banner of all, the clear and short banner that said it all: "Shame on you"—should not bother the well-intentioned observers, regardless of their views on these meetings.

But, let us open our eyes, at this meeting thousands of people shouted, among other things: "We'll kill Vlasi"; "Give us arms"; "We want an uprising"; "Impale Fadilj"; "Let spring the woodland's green restore, Montenegro goes to war." Millions of television viewers heard a reporter saying that some people even chanted "We want the Russians." This was confirmed by Titograd POBJEDA the next day.

What is happening to us?

Why did Rajko Andjelic, Krcun Vujovic, or Miodrag Radonjic, not stand on behalf of Niksic sociopolitical organizations, veterans, and young steel workers respectively, and say that they have never accepted, do not accept, and never will accept those who invite people to violence, terrorism, civil war, or those calling for foreign intervention. This would have been much more useful than a statement which will be probably soon be issued by some forum.

Leadership Discusses Economic Measures

LD2209163488 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1505 GMT 22 Sep 88

[Text] Belgrade, Sept 22 (TANUG)—Urgent measures are necessary to improve economic trends in Yugoslavia, particularly to increase industrial production and exports and reduce the inflation, it was stated at the Yugoslav top party leadership session today.

Yugoslav enterprises and federal institutions must invest additional efforts because the soaring inflation which stood at 198 per cent annually at the end of August and the 8.4 per cent fall of real earnings have intensified problems of the living standard.

The Yugoslav party Presidency considers that additional measures are necesary to stimulate industrial production and exports in order to halt the decline of the industrial production which dropped 1.3 per cent in the first eight months this year.

Yugoslavia was affected this year by a heavy drought. Agricultural losses are estimated at about one billion dollars. The party Presidency assessed that timely steps are necessary to eliminate unfavourable trends impeding the supply of the population with foodstuffs.

The country's party top considers that workers have to be motivated much more for greater production and profit.

Retail prices in Yugoslavia, according to which the inflation rate is also measured, were not expected to grow to such an extent after the liberalization of around 60 percent of the prices in Yugoslavia. Prices in Yugoslavia were previously directly controlled and frozen.

The Party Presidency considers that it is necessary in future to analyze more carefully the causes of higher inflation in the country in order to undertake efforts to halt and reduce it.

The party leadership considers that it is necessary to review as soon as possible a proposal by the trade union on changing the method of paying those workers in firms achieving good business results, which are increasing their production and recording higher exports.

Yugoslav Vice-Premier Janez Zemljaric said at a meeting of the country's party leadership that it was necesary to engage as soon as possible a part of the country's foreign currency reserves for imports of primary products, raw materials and equipment and simplify the procedures for imports and import taxes.

Zemljaric believes that it is necessary to engage various sources of foreign accumulation in production, technological modernization of the Yugoslav economy, and support of structural changes.

The Yugoslav vice-premier feels that more decisive measures are needed to reduce the trade surplus with some East European countries, with which Yugoslavia maintains a clearing market. The surplus with these countries currently stands at around two billion dollars. At the same time the Yugoslav economy has claims from abroad which have reached around three billion dollars.

At a meeting the Yugoslav party leadership critisized the current economic policy which has got out of control and said that the processes in production were developing in an erratic manner. It was said that the country's economic policy measures were not synchronized or consistent. At a League of Communists of Yugoslavia Central Committee (LCY CC) meeting it was said that the current interest rate policy (business banks have raised the real interest rates on credits to the economy by up to 60 percent) was causing economic and social chaos in the country.

The current trend in Yugoslavia was not at all the implementation of the policy of real interest rates, critics of the country's economic trends said, but rather a caricature of it. The result of such a policy, as critics set out, leads to a sudden impoverishment of the economy while a small segment of the population with savings accounts in banks is growing wealthier.

The Yugoslav party leadership Presidency said that at this point we were witnessing an enormous transfer of social funds into private ownership, i.e. that the economy was suddenly growing poorer, while a small segment of the population was getting wealthier.

The party Presidency members critisized the current economic policy because it is unacceptable for personal spending to be left at the mercy of the quasi-market trends, while budget spending remains protected.

Yugoslavia does not have a firm stand, as set out, on reducing social overheads which profit and total economic activity are unable to meet. It was recalled that efforts undertaken against inflation were inconsistent, uncertain and untimely.

SAWPY Presidium To Meet on Economy 21 Sep

AU2209184088 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 15 Sep 88 p 1

[Report by Edita Residovic: "A Front of the People and Not of a Discussion Forum"]

[Text] Belgrade, 14 Sep—The SAWPY Federal Conference Presidium will hold a special session on Wednesday 21 September devoted to the rallies and meetings of solidarity with the endangered Serbs and Montenegrins in Kosovo.

This decision was reached after a 1 and ½ hour-long discussion on the agenda of today's meeting.

The discussion on the socioeconomic situation in the country fortunately lasted 3 and ½ hours longer and the discussion on the amendments to the SFRY Constitution lasted as long again.

After a fruitful discussion on the socioeconomic situation, Bozidar Colakovic, SAWPY Federal Conference president, concluded that the Presidium had given full

support to the course of reform of the economic system and insisted that this be continued. He also pointed out that along with some positive indicators, the basic aims of economic policy were nonetheless not being achieved. Colakovic stressed among the causes of this situation the negative effect of the restrictive monetary policy, the rise in real interest rates, prices, and inflation. The consequences of these economic trends are increased dissatisfaction and social tension in the country. Advocating that the socioeconomic restructuring be carried out as quickly as possible, the Federal Conference president supported the most urgent coordination, endorsement and implementation of all essential measures and stressed that social policy and the protection of the living standards of working people and citizens must be an integral part of economic policy.

Then speaking personally, Bozidar Colakovic said that the discussion on the economic situation was inseparable from the discussion on the political situation. The political mood of citizens is at a very low level, he continued, and there are hints of a general strike in very sensitive regions. As far as the gatherings were concerned, Colakovic said that these take place every morning in queues for brown bread and it was worth hearing what people said on these occasions. SAWPY does not have the right to disassociate itself from the gatherings and it is the task of the front to articulate and direct people's energy, thereby rejecting and preventing all unacceptable and anti-Yugoslav ideas. In his opinion, the gatherings will continue until the vital problems of society—intranational relations, the inefficient system, high inflation, and unemployment—are resolved and until peace is guaranteed for every Yugoslav.

This is the time for the Socialist Alliance to reaffirm itself as the front of the people and to advocate that everyone takes their share of responsibility in society, said Bozidar Colakovic.

These conclusions were preceded by the introductory speech of Janez Zemljaric, FEC vice president, and the discussion which involved 11 members of the Presidium.

The FEC vice president said that the federal government was finishing off the draft legal provisions which could introduce reform on 1 January next year. This involves 43 laws, 23 of which should be passed this year. Their drafts will be presented to the SFRY Assembly by 30 September. Zemljaric said that the new measures were rigorous but that every alternative was worse and had more serious consequences.

The introductory speaker presented a whole list of encouraging indicators which confirm that the May measures initiated many processes of market adaptation. Exports as of 5 September rose by 12.7 percent and imports by 2.7 percent; the foreign currency market is operating without restrictions; favorable results have been achieved in the balance of payments and the balance of trade of the country; since May the country's short-term debt has been reduced by $138 million; the trend of a fall in industrial production was stopped in June and July and an increase was marked in August of 2.1 percent in relation to the same month last year, and the proportion of losses as against income has fallen by 11.6 percent. Zemljaric cited all this, as he said, to give a fuller picture of the effects of the reform. He also reiterated the data on foreign support for the reconstruction of roads in the country and for agricultural and other projects and he also spoke about commodity credits and the possibility of converting the foreign debt into dinar funds to encourage the reconstruction of our projects.

Personal incomes: More flexible frameworks providing incentives for development must be ensured in those collectives which are improving their efficiency and accumulation.

Inflation: The FEC will propose economic measures which should act to calm inflation down and this must become the basic task of everyone in this country.

Welfare program: The federal government has endorsed a program of measures and activities to provide social security under the conditions of the implementation of the May measures.

Nikola Uzunov said that the optimism of the FEC vice president was at variance with the situation of the population because the crisis is deepening and the standard of living is falling. All participants in today's discussion pointed out the unbearably high taxation of the income of the economy. The serious economic situation also generates the political crisis, said Viktor Zakelj, pointing to, like many subsequent speakers, the large budgetary expenditure and trade with the clearing account countries as a serious generator of inflation. Zakelj advocated that negotiations should continue with the EEC because this is not only a foreign policy question but also an economic one.

Milan Rakas suggested that the FEC initiate in the Federal Assembly the question of responsibility of the republican and provincial executive councils who prevented federal agreements on intervention imports being reached in time, which, among other things, resulted in the target inflation being overtaken with all the attendant consequences. [The following passage appears boxed within the body of the item]

Meetings [subhead]

The attitude toward the organization of the meetings prompts the question, to what extent these meetings lead to national misunderstanding, division, and something that is fatal not only for Bosnia-Hercegovina but for the whole of Yugoslavia? The effects of the action of the

committee which organizes them do not bear witness to the fact that these meetings have contributed to shifts in resolving the situation in Kosovo but the political consequences could be fatal.

What is startling is neglect of the fact that some of these meetings have resulted in an increase in distrust of the Albanian people and the Kosovo leadership and the meetings are intolerable if they create bad feeling toward a people.

Mikulic Talks to Businessmen at Zagreb Fair

AU2209134288 Belgrade POLITIKA in Serbo-Croatian 15 Sep 88 p 11

[R. Arsenic report: "We Should Persist With the Adopted Tenets"]

[Text] Zagreb, 14 Sep—Last night Branko Mikulic, president of the FEC, held his traditional conversation with the most prominent Yugoslav businessmen at the Zagreb trade fair which was organized by the SFRY Economic Chamber. This year's talk covered current economic trends in the light of the May economic policy measures and the work on the economic reform. FEC vice Presidents Janez Zemljaric and Milos Milosavljevic briefed those present on these issues.

In a 4-hour conversation the presidents and directors of numerous large work organizations talked about experiences with the May measures and what they expected from the FEC by the end of the year. They were then addressed by Branko Mikulic. Expressing the belief that we have just reached the point where negative tendencies are breaking up and a gradual way out the stagnant industrial production is appearing, he said:

Who Decides on What Should Be Done With Excess Money in Self-Managing Interest Communities [subhead]

"Of course, we are only talking about initial results. In my view it was not realistic to expect more in the last 3 months, because this large economic mechanism could not have adapted to the new conditions and achieved spectacular results in such a sort period of time. We expect significant results next year in which, it is realistic to expect, we will overcome stagnation and finally reverse the long-lasting trend of high inflation. The condition for this is that we must persist with the adopted tenets."

Commenting on some remarks made during the conversation, Mikulic also said the following: "It is true that there is more money in the giro accounts of the self-managing interest communities and sociopolitical organizations than in the economy's accounts, but we must ask ourselves where are such decisions made and by whom. In how many different places in the country are decisions about this made? Did the delegates in associated labor organizations—I have in mind the self-managing interest communities and similar organizations—do something for the realization of the social policy we opted for at congresses and on other occasions, a policy that would revise the law and institutions in the field of general and joint spending. In this sphere, as far as we in the FEC know, there are no serious shifts. This, as you know, is not decided by the federal organs. True, reducing import levies is within the Federation's sphere of competence. Something has been done in this respect, and we are also considering the possibility of further reduction in levies.

"Solving these and other problems," Mikulic continued, "must not call into question our orientation toward the real evaluation of all factors of production, toward commodity production and the real market criteria of conducting business activities." In connection with this he warned that, considering that the target rate of inflation has been exceeded, there is a real danger that the real inflation could be significantly higher than the target inflation and, according to him, this will, have great economic and social consequences. In connection with this he said:

We Must Not Surrender to Inflation [subhead]

"It is very probable that we will face calls to breach three nominal restrictions and this is something that could speed up inflation even more. The views that inflation could be checked with means that are already known could also be expected. On several occasions we have seen that this has not produced results in Yugoslavia, particularly since 1982, but has in fact generated inflationary pressure and, after a period of time, intensified inflation. This is a lesson from the past. In opposing such calls we must not, however, surrender to and accept inflation. It is our duty to involve ourselves more deeply in overcoming the causes of inflation, in checking and reducing it using, of course, economic measures."

Having said that the FEC and everybody else in the country should publicly state what they have done to curb inflation, concluding his speech Branko Mikulic said the following:

"We must really seriously ask ourselves how much we can withstand. We have large resources in the economy and in the social system of organization. It is often stressed that in the first half of the year the accumulation was smaller than the losses, which is true. However, a one-percent reduction in expenditure [utrosena sredstva] would result in a 40-percent increase in accumulation, and therefore, instead of being smaller, accumulation would be significantly larger than the losses. If one adds the fact that the political situation in the country is complex and becoming more complex, that the energy of the masses is not directed toward production, an increase in exports, and reforms in general, but toward other things, and that the confusion and concern for the

country's future have already been expressed, one can conclude that the general milieu for our reform is fairly unfavorable. We also know that the reform could not be carried through without the involvement of all the working people. Without improving the general situation it will be difficult to carry out the reform. If we do not persist on this road, let me be frank, the realization of the reform, which we have partly started and plan to fully implement at the beginning of next year, will be at least 2 decades late. This is where the great historical responsibility of all of us lies.

Bosko Krunic Reportedly Changes LC Organization

AU2209163088 Belgrade POLITIKA in Serbo-Croatian 17 Sep 88 p 19

[S. P. report: "Bosko Krunic Returning to Grassroots?"]

[Text] We have learned unofficially that Bosko Krunic, former president and now member of the LCY Central Committee Presidium, has taken his party documents from the Committee of the Basic LC Organization in the organs and organizations of the Federation and joined the party organization in the Novi Sad local community where he lives.

This news has been confirmed by the report carried on page 7 of VECERNJE NOVOSTI on the day before yesterday under the headline "Officials—Migrating Birds of the Party." It says that Bosko Krunic was given his documents on the basis of the discharge paper (odveznica) issued by the secretary of his former LC basic organization, together with the certificate that he paid his party membership fee through August 1988. The Committee of the basic LC organization in the organs and organizations of the Federation has sent his documents to Novi Sad.

By this decision to change his party organization—VECERNJE NOVOSTI says—Bosko Krunic has violated the decision the LCY Central Committee adopted after its 13th session according to which LC members working in the organs and organizations of the Federation belong to the basic LC organization of these organs and organizations. It is logical that this decision obliges Bosko Krunic to belong to one of the party organizations in the LCY Central Committee just as he did until last Friday.

Three Accused in Agrokomerc Scandal Released

LD2209214088 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1426 GMT 22 Sep 88

[Text] Bihac, 22 Sep (TANJUG)—At the request of the defense, the president of the Court Council, Rifat Konjic, has released from detention two people accused of involvement in the Agrokomerc promissory note affair, Muhamed Osmanagic and Hamid Cerimagic. This reprieve was also obtained by the defendant Franc Horjak, an employee in the Marketing-Inzenjering work organization. He has been freed from detention because it has been established that the circumstances, surrounding his detention no longer exist.

Joint Session Meets on EFTA Countries Trade

LD2309090388 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1757 GMT 22 Sep 88

[Text] Graz, Sept 22 (TANJUG)—Several initiatives for the promotion of economic relations, primarily trade, were discussed at a session of the Yugoslav-EFTA (European Free Trade Association) joint committee here today.

The value of trade between Yugoslavia and the EFTA countries (Austria, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden and Switzerland) from January through July showed that the conditions for the export of Yugoslav goods to the EFTA market were less favourable than those for the export of goods to the European Community (EC) countries. The extent to which imports are covered with exports to the EFTA countries was only 64 percent in the first seven months of 1988, while the extent to which imports were covered with exports to the EC countries was almost balanced—98.8 percent.

An initiative to equalize the conditions for exports to the EFTA countries with those Yugoslavia has for exports to the EC countries was launched at last year's joint committee session in Novi Sad.

The EFTA delegation was interested in the Yugoslav delegation's explanation of the country's economic reform and the government measures. It was concluded that the introduction of market-oriented elements in the Yugoslav economy would pave the way for new possibilities for the promotion of economic relations with the EFTA countries.

Initiatives for the promotion of cooperation in industry, science, technology, tourism and transport were also reviewed at today's meeting.

Romanian Defense Official Talks With Kadijevic

LD2209132788 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1257 GMT 22 Sep 88

[Text] Belgrade, Sept 22 (TANJUG)—The Yugoslav federal defence secretary, Colonel-General Veljko Kadijevic, received in Belgrade today Romania's assistant defence minister and secretary of the High Political Council of the Romanian Armed Forces Ilie Ceausescu. They discussed the cooperation between the two countries' armed forces and concluded that it was developing successfully and that conditions existed for its further expansion.

Colonel-General Ceausescu said during a meeting with reporters of the Yugoslav army newspapers that the talks in Belgrade were conducted in a working and open

atmosphere. He said that the talks were particularly important as they included an exchange of views on the party and political activity in the two countries' armed forces.

Later, Ilie Ceausescu wound up his several-day long visit to the Yugoslav Armed Forces and left Belgrade for Bucharest.

Briefs

Metallurgy Cooperation With USSR

Skopje, September 22 (TANJUG)—The Yugoslav mining and ironworking enterprise Rudnici i Zelezarnica Skopje of Skopje has signed a new 270-million-dollar barter deal with the Soviet firm Vnessprometehnoben of Moscow for the year 1989. Under the contract, the Skopje ironworks will next year deliver to the Soviet partner 110,000 tons cold rolled and hot rolled sheet metal, 45,000 tons of galvanized plate and considerable quantities of other metallurgical products. The Soviet partner will deliver to the Skopje firm scrap iron and other raw materials and semi manufactures necessary for this production. The Yugoslav metallurgical complex comprises 8 iron mills and 2,500 big and small metal-working factories. Last year, the Yugoslav metal working industry exported 4.2 billion dollars' worth of its products and accounted for one-third of Yugoslavia's overall exports. [Text] [*LD2309025488 Belgrade TANJUG in English 0730 GMT 22 Sep 88*]